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Beijing set for spotlight

China is staging the most expensive opening ceremony in Olympic history today — keen to shine the world spotlight on its modern face.

Displaying its new economic clout, China has invested $43 billion on the Games. Some $100 million, twice the 2004 Athens bill, has gone on what are set to be spectacular "big bang" opening and closing ceremonies.

They are scheduled to begin at 8:08 p.m. Beijing time (5:08 a.m. Vancouver time).

"My heart is bursting with excitement about the Games," said Zhu Shegqiang, a 22-year-old student walking through Tiananmen Square. "I want people to see what is special about China."

Some 15,000 performers and 29,000 fireworks will give the Games a sparkling start inside Beijing's head-turning "Bird's Nest" Olympic stadium. Film director Zhang Yimou was tasked with condensing 5,000 years of Chinese history into one show.

The best-known face of Chinese sport, seven-foot six-inch NBA player Yao Ming, is to carry the host nation's flag during today's ceremony, which has been ensnared in politics from the outset. Earlier this year, director Steven Spielberg quit as an adviser to protest against China's ties with Sudan. REUTERS

Games trivia

- Number of medals handed out in the first 25 Summer Games: 12,738.
- Number of countries competing at Beijing Olympics, most ever: 205.
- Number of Asian cities to have hosted the Summer Games: 3 (Beijing, Tokyo 1964, Seoul 1988)

Share your thoughts »
vancouverletters@metronews.ca

JOE CHAN/REUTERS

Performers wait for the 2008 Beijing Olympic torch relay at the Badaling section of the Great Wall on the outskirts of Beijing yesterday. The Summer Olympics begin today. More coverage pages 8, 11.

Emerson filling in for Harper at Games opening

SNUB? David Emerson, Vancouver-Kingsway MP and Foreign Affairs Minister, is attending today's opening ceremony for the Beijing Olympics, standing in for Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

U.S. President George W. Bush is attending, so is B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell.

Emerson insists Harper is not snubbing the People's Republic, but has rather encouraged him to improve relations with China, which have been strained since the Conservative government came to power in early 2006.

"We've got some momentum going ... particularly since the Prime Minister met with President Hu (Hintao) at the G-8 in Japan," Emerson told CTV's Question Period.

Critics say that while Emerson is a respected member of the Harper cabinet, his presence still doesn't measure up with the Prime Minister attending and that while his reasons for not showing may be legitimate, it is still viewed as a slight by Chinese officials.

Emerson will be in China until Monday. METRO VANCOUVER
WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Olympic parties set for Vancouver

CELEBRATION Several events will take place this weekend as the city kicks off the 2008 Olympic Summer Games in Beijing.

The Golden Phoenix Restaurant in East Vancouver will open at 5 a.m. tomorrow and play the opening ceremonies live on a 1.5-metre screen.

On Saturday, CBC will host an Olympic celebration that coincides with the 9th Annual Vancouver Chinatown Festival in Downtown Vancouver. The event takes place a 2 p.m. at the corner of Keefer and Columbia streets.

Aberdeen Centre in Richmond will also be throwing a party complete with free food and entertainment tomorrow morning.

ANDREA WOO/FOR METRO VANCOUVER
MORE DETAILS, PAGE 4

Local page 2

Activist moms nurse in store

Movies page 14

Tropic Thunder cast calls shots

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Free Daily News Group Inc., operating as Metro Vancouver Newspapers 1190 Homer Street, Suite 250, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 2X6. Publisher: Maryse Lalonde

Lower Mainland residents breathing easier
Air quality in the Lower Mainland is improving with the arrival of cool air from the Pacific. The health risk was rated as moderate for many B.C. communities Wednesday due to ground-level air pollution caused by car emissions. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Local

98-year-old whale may be dead

The oldest resident orca on B.C.'s South Coast may be dead. Senior staff at the Center for Whale Research in Washington State said the whale, believed to be 98 years old, has not been seen with its pod since Christmas.
CBC NEWS ONLINE

SHANE MACKICHAN/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

RCMP and conservation officers load a dead black bear into a pickup in Westwood Plateau in Coquitlam yesterday.

2nd bear shot in 2 days

COQUITLAM A bear was shot in Coquitlam's Westwood Plateau neighbourhood after it broke into a home yesterday morning — the second aggressive bear shot in the area in two days.

The animal entered through the basement window of a house on 2200 Turnberry Lane, which is in front of a heavily wooded area. The residents were home, upstairs, and said they only noticed the bear after people at an adjacent golf course called police.

"When the RCMP arrived, the bear was outside with the food it took from the kitchen, it then went back into the basement," Const. Sharen Leung said. "When it came back out on its own, it showed some aggressive behaviour so we shot it, hit its shoulder and it climbed up a tree."

Conservation officers soon arrived and tranquilized the 180-kilogram bear, which eventually came down from the tree and was killed by the RCMP.

"When the conservation officer approached the bear, it started to move and, due to its aggressive and high-risk behaviour, police had to shoot it to protect the public," she said.

On Wednesday, a 49-year-old woman was attacked by a bear in the same neighbourhood while gardening in her front yard. The RCMP also shot and killed that animal. The woman, whose name is believed to be Kate Yin, was treated for a torn scalp and bite wounds.

JOYCE YIP/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

NURSING Vancouver's Erin Tarbuck said she was harassed while nursing her 11-month-old son on a recent WestJet flight, CBC News Online reports. She was asked to cover up by a flight attendant as the plane prepared for takeoff.

CRASH A man died yesterday after the aircraft he was piloting crashed into a highway north of Kamloops, CBC News Online reports. The crash — the fourth aviation accident in B.C. this week — happened at 11 a.m. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

150 mothers stage 'nurse-in' at H&M

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

A horde of breastfeeding women overran a downtown Vancouver clothing store yesterday in a noon-hour "nurse-in" protest, sparked by reports that a new mother was asked to breastfeed in a private fitting room.

Around 150 mothers with their babies (and almost as many strollers) crowded into the newly opened H&M on Granville Street and nursed en mass: some sitting on the floor, other standing in aisles.

An organizer of the rally seemed shocked that so many mothers showed up.

"I was thinking five people — that'd be great," said Veronika Polanska. "Ten — that's even better. Fifteen — yeah. Twenty — it's a victory. But it seems to be a little more than that."

The nurse-in was called after Manuela Valle, 34, a PhD student in women's and gender studies at the University of B.C., was asked by store staff Saturday to stop breastfeeding her two-month-old daughter and move to a private fitting room. She was told it was policy and was making people uncomfortable.

Laura Shankland, a spokeswoman for H&M, said the situation was being investigated and that she was sorry it happened.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Anica Schotzau nurses her six-month-old daughter Beatrice outside the H&M store in Pacific Centre Mall yesterday.

"We hope to be able to apologize to Manuela and explain our policy … to allow mothers to (breastfeed) freely in our stores," Shankland said. "We also are thankful to Manuela for bringing a new area to light that we can clearly improve on in terms of educating our staff."

Valle, who did not attend the nurse-in as her daughter had just had been vaccinated, said the turnout made her feel "enormously supported."

"It shows that if you mess with one mom, there's a whole community out there that will stand up for you."

Share your thoughts »
vancouverletters@metronews.ca

Police believe inmates pulled ol' switcharoo

SWITCH A 39-year-old prisoner with a history that includes assaulting a police officer and unlawful confinement apparently escaped from a Coquitlam jail by posing as another prisoner, RCMP said yesterday.

Dean Sykes appeared in Port Coquitlam provincial court Tuesday posing as fellow inmate Timothy Broadbent, 42. Following court, Sykes was returned to the North Fraser Pre-Trial Centre and was released.

On Wednesday, Broadbent was arrested and charged with assisting in the escape of a prisoner.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

WARNING A convicted sex offender who targets girls age four to seven, walked away from a halfway-house Tuesday. Police warn he is likely to re-offend. Jeremiah Allan Halliday is 26 years old, Caucasion, five-foot-seven and weighs 150 pounds. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Halliday

metronews.ca
What's online today.

Read an extended version of our Urban Foodie column
Watch a report on a Canadian BMX racer getting ready to compete in the Olympics and MetroTube of the Day

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Lougheed Mall
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Lougheed Mall Kiosk
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Metropolis at Metrotown
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Metropolis
(604) 430-3903
Crystal Square
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Metrotown Centre
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101-3855 Henning Dr.
(604) 431-2900
4548 Kingsway
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Ironwood Mall
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Discover Harbour Ctr.
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CHILLIWACK
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Coquitlam Centre Mall
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Coquitlam Ctr. Kiosk
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Scottsdale Mall
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(604) 582-9999
110-8067-120th St.
(604) 592-9199
Bay Side Village
(604) 943-3602
DUNCAN
Fort Centre
(250) 748-6388
LANGLEY
Fraser Crossing
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Willowbrook Mall
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Willowbrook Kiosk
(604) 532-8400
Walnut Grove
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Valley Fair Mall
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Westgate Mall
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Nanaimo North Town Ctr.
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Woodgrove Centre
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2540 Bowen Rd.
(250) 756-0517
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(604) 983-3025
Lynn Valley Centre
(604) 984-8900
Norgate Mall
(604) 983-3335
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Central City
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Semiahmoo Mall
(604) 536-1010
Strawberry Hill
Shopping Centre
(604) 502-7600
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(604) 572-9955
#820-3041-152nd St.
(604) 531-2500
#101-7320 King George Hwy.
604-599-5522
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(604) 892-1122
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Champlain Heights
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(604) 433-4991
155-139 Keefer St.
(604) 683-8283
6510 Fraser St.
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1807 Burrard St.
(604) 736-3326
Oakridge Centre
(604) 267-1011
City Square
(604) 876-0888
208 Keefer St.
(604) 688-3883
5759 West Blvd.
(604) 267-6383
2691 West Broadway
(604) 736-1813
920 Davie St.
(604) 684-5981
1022 Mainland
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UBC-2160 Western Parkway
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VANOC preparing Sea-to-Sky plan
VANOC is reassuring the IOC that it will have a strategy in place to deal with any scenario involving the Sea-to-Sky Highway. The IOC is concerned about safety and alternate routes should a slide occur during the 2010 Games. **SOURCE: CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Richmond mall celebrates Games

Aberdeen Centre unveils 28-foot TV

ANDREA WOO
for Metro Vancouver

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO VANCOUVER

Richmond's Aberdeen Centre is hosting an Olympic-themed party today that includes an Olympics broadcast on a 28-foot TV.

Olympic fans wanting to celebrate the opening of the 2008 Olympic Summer Games in real-time need look no further than Aberdeen Centre.

From 5 to 10 a.m. tomorrow, the Richmond mall will be holding a celebration complete with Chinese dancing, stage shows and a 28-foot television that will broadcast the Games live.

Ed Gavsie, chair of the Richmond Spirit of B.C. Community Committee, said that the free food and entertainment is a celebration of not just the Beijing Games, but the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver as well.

"This is the lead-up to our Olympics, with Richmond being a venue city," he said. "People can also come here to sign up (to volunteer) for 2010."

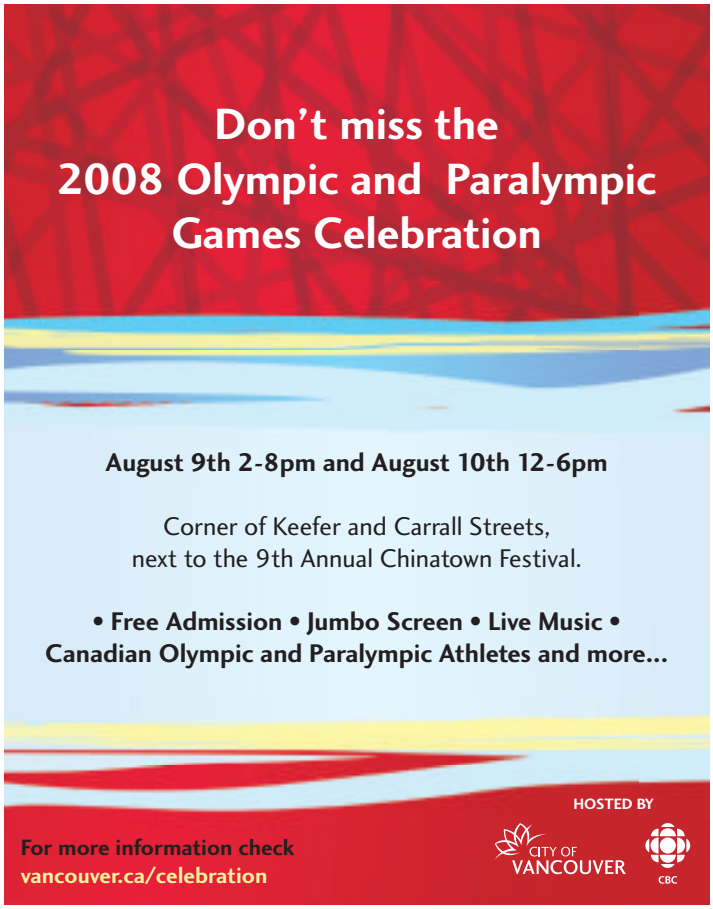
Joey Kwan, spokeswoman for Aberdeen Centre, echoed the sentiment.

"As soon as they finish, the spotlight is on us," she said.

Other entertainment includes a fashion show, face-painting, stilt-walkers and games.

Attendees will include the Olympic mascots, 15 past Olympians from Richmond and city councillors Bill McNulty and Cynthia Chen, who will be serving a pancake breakfast.

Richmond Mayor Malcolm Brodie has declared today Beijing 8.8.8 Day in the city.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Building relations with China

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

SUBMITTED

The British Columbia Canada Pavilion in Beijing.

OLYMPICS For Pearl Zhang, the best part of working at the British Columbia Canada Pavilion in Beijing was the opportunity to showcase her country to China and the world.

"I'm so proud to show how beautiful Canada is," said Zhang, 47. "It was so cool. I really loved it."

Zhang, a revenue services employee with the City of Vancouver, was selected to work for two months, April to June, as a VIP host at the exhibit, promoting tourism and business before, during and after the Olympic Games.

The 21,000-square-metre pavilion, located near the Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square, greets visitors with 13 massive wooden arches (one for every province and territory) and a 5,000-kilogram jade sculpture, by Vancouver artist George Pratt.

The first floor tells the story of Canada and B.C. through the five elements of Chinese Philosophy: metal, wood, water, fire and earth.

"It's a really nice way to show Canada to the Chinese," said Zhang. "They don't know how beautiful B.C. is."

Annette Antoniak, president and CEO of the B.C. Olympic and Paralympic Secretariat, said the pavilion is about leveraging the Games for economic benefit.

"When you're dealing in the Asian market it's about relationship building," said Antoniak.

The secretariat, which built and operates the pavilion, helps foster those relationships through business-to-business meetings that take place on the pavilion's second floor.

In the long run, the partnerships generated between Canadian and Chinese companies are the "return on investment," she said.

To gauge the economic return, the secretariat has engaged PricewaterhouseCoopers to track the economic benefits of the Games through 2013.

"We want to be sure we can demonstrate what the Games have done for B.C."

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO VANCOUVER

A member of the China Human Rights Coalition takes part in a mock torture demonstrations outside the Vancouver Art Gallery yesterday. Protesters went on to stage a 24-hour fast and candlelight vigil outside the Chinese Consulate on Granville Street.

Protests against China continue today

JOYCE YIP
for Metro Vancouver

HUMAN RIGHTS Protesters outraged at China's human rights violations rallied at the Vancouver Art Gallery yesterday afternoon — less than one day before the Beijing Olympics opening ceremonies begin.

The rally included groups like the Falun Dafa Association, the Canadian Tibet Committee and Students for a Free Tibet.

On Wednesday, police arrested a pro-Tibetan demonstrator outside the Chinese consulate building after he tried to put his arms in a bucket of cement.

The protest will continue today with a vigil, a 24-hour fast and candle lighting outside the consulate office.

News in brief

ASSAULT A loss prevention officer at Winner's was assaulted yesterday while attempting to arrest a man. The man punched the officer in the face. He fell to the ground and the shoplifter struck him until he was unconscious. Police arrested him as he exited the mall.

TENT CITY The Vancouver park board commissioner's suggestion for the homeless to be housed in a tent city was rejected, cknw.com reports. Housing minister Rich Coleman said the proposal is politically motivated and the government is working on real solutions to help the homeless, ill and addicts.

INTERNET Social networking website Facebook may be hit with a virus, news1130.com reports. The virus is said to activate when users open an e-mail that asks them to download a new Flash player plug-in to watch a video. The virus is said to affect users' friends list.

CARBON TAX B.C. may have to raise the carbon tax, CBC News Online reports. The province's Climate Action Team said on Wednesday that the raise is necessary to reach the premier's goal of cutting emissions one-third by 2020.

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Libraries without borders stopped at the border

The theme is "Libraries Without Borders" but at least four overseas presenters failed to get visas for the International Federation of Library Associations conference in Quebec starting today because they were considered threats to try and remain citizens after it ended. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Canada

"It's a great moment. I can't think of anything right now."

Ontario's Pete Bray, speaking to his 25 employees who all shared in winning half of the $45,145,712 Lotto 6/49 prize.

Big win

The prize was the second largest ever offered in Canada and was split between two winning tickets. The other winning ticket was purchased in Quebec.

Canada buys six helicopters from U.S.

Canada will overcome a critical shortage of military transport helicopters in Afghanistan by buying six used machines from the United States as well as leasing six Russian-made aircraft, Defence Minister Peter MacKay said yesterday.

Canada has no transport helicopters in Afghanistan and, in MacKay's words, has been reduced to "hitching rides with allies." Canada has 2,500 troops in the southern city of Kandahar on a mission that is due to end in 2011.

Ottawa will buy six used Boeing Co Chinook helicopters from the U.S. government for a sum not exceeding $292 million. The aircraft are already in action and will be available for operations by February 2009.

In addition, Canada will lease six Russian-made Mil Mi-8 helicopters for a year for up to $36 million, depending on how much they are used.

"These helicopters will mean less use of convoys to move and resupply our troops and bring humanitarian relief over dangerous terrain, and (they) better protect our soldiers against (bomb) attacks," MacKay told a televised news conference in Saint-Hubert, Quebec.

Ottawa has already committed to buying 16 medium- to heavy-lift Chinooks, which are due to be delivered in 2012. Canada will send an extra 250 soldiers to Afghanistan to help operate the helicopters and UAVs. REUTERS

unmanned drones

MacKay also said Canada would spend $95 million over two years to lease unmanned aerial surveillance vehicles (UAVs) from MacDonald, Dettwiler and Associates Ltd.

Feds lobbied for funding on reactors

COMPETITION Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. and partner SNC-Lavalin Group want the Canadian government to provide billions of dollars in financing for their bid to build two nuclear reactors in the Canadian province of Ontario, it was reported yesterday.

Patrick Lamarre, the head of SNC-Lavalin's nuclear division, had written to Ottawa saying the firms were at a major disadvantage to French and U.S. companies, which he said had access to government-backed financing.

Ontario is seeking to buy two new reactors at a cost of at least $6 billion. The Canadians are competing against France's Areva and U.S.-based Westinghouse, which is owned by Japan's Toshiba Corp

"We are potentially faced with a predatory financing situation," Lamarre wrote the Natural Resource Minister. REUTERS

Calgary **Cops busting bikes for speeding**

ROBIN KUNISKI/FOR METRO CALGARY

A Calgary bylaw officer points a radar gun at a cyclist riding along the city's path system. The officers have begun handing out $50 fines for pedalling over the 20-kilometre/hour limit posted on most city pathways, and for failing to announce one's presence to pedestrians.

Gatineau police expect more luring victims

TIM WIECLAWSKI
tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca

The Ottawa-area couple accused of confining teenage girls and forcing them into prostitution appeared in court yesterday, even as Gatineau police appealed for more victims to come forward.

Prior to a hearing yesterday for co-accused Gordon John Kingsbury, 33, and Laura Emerson, 28, the defence lawyer for Emerson, Jean Bourget, asked that the proceedings be postponed to give him time to review recent new information.

"The prosecution disclosed new information and new evidence to me yesterday," Bourget said afterwards. "It was more appropriate that we postpone in order for the prosecution to complete the disclosure process."

The accused were remanded into custody and will reappear Aug. 12.

On July 25, a 17-year-old girl told police she had been confined for six months at an apartment at 232 Alexandre-Tache Blvd., and forced into prostitution under the influence of drugs and alcohol.

The police investigation revealed two other victims said they were confined for six months and a year respectively, during which time they were forced to smoke crack and have sex.

Gatineau Police Const. Isabelle Poirier said yesterday investigators have since learned through interviews there are more than three victims and they expect more girls to step forward in the coming days.

Girls 'recruited'

- Gatineau police said the three girls were "recruited" from areas around women's shelters in Ottawa.

Feds back Toronto Pan Am bid

FUNDING Prime Minister Stephen Harper is backing Toronto's $1.77 billion bid for the 2015 Pan Am Games.

Harper yesterday gave Ottawa's endorsement of efforts to host the international sports event in Toronto and a dozen other Golden Horseshoe municipalities.

"It's very positive. It's a boost for the entire region," federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty told the Star last night.

"Toronto hasn't had a major sporting event in many, many years," said Flaherty, who is Harper's Greater Toronto Area minister.

He added that in difficult economic times, the Pan Am Games would "create jobs and construction activity" and leave behind an infrastructure legacy in the GTA and beyond. Ottawa's move, which came months earlier than expected, led Premier Dalton McGuinty to start packing to fly to China to lobby sports officials. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

security

Flaherty emphasized that Ottawa's funding commitment is still being finalized because security costs

Halifax vigil draws attention to unsolved death

JENNIFER TAPLIN
Metro Canada

KILLING David Reader hopes last night's vigil for his murdered son is the last one.

It was three years ago 19-year-old Jonathan Reader was found in the middle of an intersection in Halifax.

He was bleeding from a massive head wound and he later died in the hospital.

Several hundred people attended last night's candlelight vigil at the intersection where Jonathan was found.

RYAN TAPLIN/FOR METRO HALIFAX

A candlelight vigil drew hundreds for a slain Halifax teen.

While police blocked off the road, people dropped off flowers around a lamppost with pictures of Jonathan taped to it.

A prayer was said for healing and justice, then the family hugged and cried with supporters.

Police say they're closer to finding out what happened to Jonathan after he left a bar and was found unconscious less than an hour late.

There's some relief that even three years later, the police haven't shut down the investigation and called it a cold case.

"We live on hope because we really can't find peace until we know who's been caught," David Reader told reporters last night.

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Millionaire's life on the auction block

An eccentric British millionaire has put his entire life up for sale on the Internet — including his title of Lord of the Manor of Warleigh — in the hope of converting his assets into cash. David Piper wants to sell his west of England existence on the auction site EBay and move to London to be closer to his children. REUTERS

World/Business

Mayor jailed for violating bond terms

INDICTED A judge yesterday jailed indicted Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick for violating the conditions of his bond by crossing the Canadian border without permission.

The 38-year-old mayor, once seen as a rising star in the Democratic Party, faces a trial on charges of perjury, obstruction of justice and official misconduct stemming from a sex scandal and his handling of a whistle-blower lawsuit.

Kilpatrick

He went to neighbouring Windsor in July without informing authorities, a breach of a condition of his $75,000 bond that allowed him his freedom before trial.

Kilpatrick has steadfastly refused calls to step down. Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm, also a Democrat, has the power to remove him, but has not stepped into the case.

The mayor may face additional charges from an incident last month in which he shoved a sheriff's deputy serving a subpoena. REUTERS

Opponents look to oust Musharraf

COALITION Pakistan's ruling coalition will move to impeach President Pervez Musharraf on charges of plunging the country into a political and economic crisis, party leaders said yesterday.

They also warned Musharraf, a former general who first came to power in a 1999 military coup, against any attempt to dismiss the government.

The move is likely to deepen political uncertainty in the key U.S. ally which already faces a faltering economy and a threat from Islamist militants.

The response of the powerful army to the prospect of a humiliating exit for its former chief will be crucial. REUTERS

LARRY DOWNING/REUTERS

U.S. President George W. Bush, Laura Bush and daughter Barbara are greeted by Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi at Beijing Capital International Airport yesterday.

Bush rebukes China's record

U.S. President tackles human rights issue

Having publicly promised that he would not "politicize" the Olympic Games, U.S. President George W. Bush caught Chinese officials off guard yesterday, sharply criticizing Beijing on human rights, just hours before he set off for China from Bangkok.

The criticisms stung the Chinese — especially on the eve of the Olympics. Before Bush landed here last night, the country's ministry of foreign affairs had already reproached him.

"We resolutely oppose any words or actions which interfere in the internal affairs of another country in the name of issues such as human rights and religion," foreign ministry spokesperson Qin Gang said in a statement posted on the ministry's website.

Bush wasted no time raising the touchy issues of religious freedom and free speech after arriving in China, using the dedication of a new American embassy in Beijing to drive home his point. "We continue to be candid about our belief that all people should have the freedom to say what they think and worship as they choose," he said at the embassy dedication.

> **"We continue to be candid about our belief that all people should have the freedom to say what they think and worship as they choose."**
> George Bush

Meanwhile, Beijingers waved flags, painted their faces and snapped pictures of Olympics venues Friday morning, excited about the opening of the Games after years of planning, hoping and waiting. REUTERS

Georgian troops, warplanes, pound separatists

SEPARATISTS Georgian troops, backed by warplanes, pounded separatist forces on the outskirts of the South Ossetian capital this morning, hours after launching an assault on the breakaway region following a short-lived truce.

Georgian big guns shelled Tskhinvali, where government and separatists envoys had been due to meet for Russia-mediated peace talks later in the day, and many houses were ablaze.

Russia, main backer of the separatists who have controlled the region since a war in the early 1990s, accused Georgia of treachery and urged the world community to avert "massive bloodshed." REUTERS

UN response

- In New York, members of the U.N. Security Council were to meet in emergency session at Russia's request to discuss the crisis.

News in brief

GUANTANAMO BAY A jury of U.S. military officers sentenced Osama bin Laden's driver, Yemeni-born Salim Hamdan, to just 5 1/2 years in prison yesterday for supporting terrorism. The trial was the first the first U.S. war crimes tribunal since post-World War Two.

MAURITANIA Leaders of a military coup in Mauritania promised yesterday to hold a free and transparent presidential election as soon as possible, but the United States suspended aid and demanded an immediate return to civilian rule. REUTERS

Business

Beavers booted, unit names simplified in Bell makeover

NEW LOOK Change is in the air at soon-to-be-privatized BCE Inc. with Bell Canada's incoming owners looking at a big brand makeover.

After revealing that "spokesbeavers" Frank and Gordon are being handed severance packages — along with 2,500 managers — Bell is rolling out a national brand campaign today that coincides with the beginning of the Olympic Games in Beijing.

The new fur-free look includes a more contemporary take on the company's blue logo and a tagline that reads "Today just got better" in English Canada and "La vie est Bell" in Quebec.

Bell is also simplifying the names of some of its business units to more clearly communicate the products and services being offered. Bell Sympatico will become Bell Internet while Bell ExpressVu will be known as Bell TV. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In brief

PROFITS Tim Hortons' profit jumped 11.5 per cent in the second quarter, thanks in part to higher prices, but some analysts questioned the sustainability of such gains. Edward Jones analyst Brian Yarbrough said 75 to 80 per cent of the same store sales gains was due to price increases.

SPONSORS McDonald's, one of 12 global sponsors paying up to $100 million each to sponsor the Beijing Games and use the Olympics images and logos, is hoping its links to the massive media event will pay off and help it snare China's 1.3 billion consumers. REUTERS

Cab Move over

STEPHEN HIRD/REUTERS

German car giant Daimler AG wants London cabbies to swap their five-seater classic cab for the minivan-style Mercedes Vito Taxi, above, which seats six and pollutes less.

Wal-Mart workers win plea

JOBLESS Wal-Mart Inc. suffered a defeat yesterday when the Supreme Court agreed to hear a challenge of the company's 2005 decision to close a Quebec store that had been the first in North America to obtain union certification.

Former employees charged they had unfairly lost their jobs because of their union activities. Wal-Mart insisted that they had lost their jobs for the "good and sufficient reason" of the closure of the store. REUTERS

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Karlsson, Singh tied for lead at PGA Championship

Robert Karlsson recovered from an early double-bogey to grab a share of the lead with India's Jeev Milka Singh after a weather-hit opening round at the U.S. PGA Championship yesterday. Mike Weir is two over with two holes to play and Calgary's Stephen Ames shot seven over. REUTERS

Sports

Favre Jets away to the Big Apple

Brett Favre, left, officially joined the New York Jets yesterday in a press conference before the team's preseason game in Cleveland. According to NFL.com, the Packers will receive a fourth-round draft pick in 2009 and the selection would turn into a third-round pick if Favre plays in 50 percent of the plays this season, a second-rounder if he plays in 70 percent and the Jets make the playoffs, or a first-round pick if he plays in 80 percent and the Jets make it to the Super Bowl. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: JONATHAN P. KUEHLEIN, SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

B.C. Sports in brief

MLB Jeff Francis' return to the majors went much like his season has thus far. Pitching in his first game since coming off the disabled list, the North Delta native gave up five runs in just over five innings.

SCOTT RINTOUL/METRO VANCOUVER

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Borders for athletes disappearing

YorkReport

Marty York

marty.york@metronews.ca

As the Olympics open in Beijing today, I can't help but wonder what will happen to Becky Hammon when Russia meets the United States in women's basketball.

Big Shot Becky, as she's known for her wizardry in the U.S.-based WNBA, was born and raised in South Dakota and played college basketball at Colorado State before turning pro in New York and San Antonio.

In Beijing, she'll be Russia's point guard.

I kid you not.

Becky has no Russian background but, after being bypassed for the U.S. team, she signed a $2-million, four-year contract with CSKA Moscow to play in the Euroleague during the WNBA's off-seasons. Included in her contract was Russian citizenship.

Now, Hammon aims to lead Russia to gold. Already, she's received vicious hate mail from Americans. And U.S. coach Anne Donovan said: "If you play in the USA, live in the USA and you grew up in the heartland — and then you put on a Russian uniform — you are not a patriotic person in my mind."

This could get ugly.

• There's a Russian in the NFL.

Sergey Ivanov, a 23-year-old safety from Moscow, is at the Tampa Bay Buccaneers' training camp. He won't make the team but will play in NFL Europe and could be a Buc next season.

"If American football was popular in Russia, I'd be rich," Ivanov said. "I'm the first Russian in the NFL. Nobody knows me in Russia, but my dream came true."

• And then there's Jujie Luan, the 50-year-old fencer we first told you about back in June. She'll represent Canada at the Olympics but is a legend in China, where she was born and still ranks as the country's only gold medalist in fencing.

Turns out Jujie's been training since July in China — at a sports centre that bears her name.

Jujie was a promising runner and badminton player in China at 16, when authorities ordered her to start fencing, against her wishes. "In China," she said, "you do what you're told."

• Remember this name: David Price. He's a blue-chip prospect, 10-0 in the minor leagues and about to join the already-formidable pitching staff of the Tampa Bay Rays … The St. Louis Cardinals' Troy Glaus, traded by the Blue Jays after last season, is a lock as the NL's Gold Glove third baseman.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

Daughter's tip

• The B.C. Lions are starting to rely heavily on fullback Rolly Lumbala, a Calgarian recommended to the club by Christie Buono, daughter of coach Wally Buono. For details, read Marty York's CFL Report, exclusively at www.metronews.ca.

SCOREBOARD

MLB

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Toronto 6 Oakland 4
Detroit 8 Chicago White Sox 3
N.Y. Yankees 3 Texas 0
Seattle 2 Tampa Bay 1

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Atlanta 6 Arizona 4
Florida 3 Philadelphia 0
Houston 7 Cincinnati 4
L.A. Dodgers 4 St. Louis 1
N.Y. Mets 5 San Diego 3
Washington 6 Colorado 3 (1st gm)
Washington 6 Colorado 3 (2nd gm)

CFL

WEEK 7
LAST NIGHT'S RESULTS
Calgary 30 Saskatchewan 25
Hamilton 45 Toronto 21
TONIGHT'S GAMES
Montreal at Winnipeg, 4:30
Edmonton at B.C., 7:30

SOCCER

GAMES FEATURING THE VANCOUVER WHITECAPS MEN'S TEAM:
SUNDAY'S GAME
Atlanta at **VANCOUVER**, 4

BASEBALL

NORTHWEST LEAGUE GAMES FEATURING THE VANCOUVER CANADIANS:
LAST NIGHT'S RESULT
Spokane 8 **VANCOUVER** 5
TONIGHT'S GAME
VANCOUVER at Spokane, 7

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China's flag bearer named
NBA basketball player Yao Ming is to carry the host nation's flag at the opening ceremony today. REUTERS

Beijing Games

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Islamist group threatens attacks

SECURITY An Islamist group has threatened attacks against the Olympics and urged Muslims to keep away from any activities linked to its events, two U.S.-based terrorism monitoring firms said yesterday.

"The Turkistan Islamic Party (TIP) issued a new threat ... against the Beijing Olympics," the SITE Intelligence Group reported. A similar report was carried by IntelCenter.

"Do not stay on the same bus, on the same train, on the same plane, in the same buildings, or any place the Chinese are," SITE quoted TIP as saying in a video dated Aug. 1.

In the video, the speaker "describes the barbarism exhibited by China towards Muslims and East Turkistan, justifying the jihad that is declared against the communist regime," SITE said. REUTERS

Men's eight seek redemption

World champion rowers eye gold after disappointing finish in 2004

MARTY YORK
Metro Canada

They're world champions, just as they were before the Athens Olympics. And they're determined to win the gold medal at the Summer Olympics, just as they were in 2004.

But will the Canadian men's eight rowing team be disappointed, just as they were four years ago?

"We are going to Beijing to get the job done," team member Dominic Seiterle said. "We've been obsessed with this. Hour by hour. Stroke by stroke. Our goal is to confirm that we really are the best this time."

The Canadian crew has been training feverishly two or three times daily to make amends for 2004.

"Our goal is to confirm that we really are the best this time."
Dominic Seiterle

Despite arriving at Athens with the world championship, the Canadian men's eight finished a disappointing fifth in the Olympic final. It's been gnawing at them ever since. Last year, they won the world championship again in Japan.

"But," team captain Kyle Hamilton said, "I'd trade every world championship for one Olympic gold medal."

RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The Canadian men's eight rowing team has been training feverishly to make amends for 2004.

But what's changed for them since Athens?

Well, first, their boat. The crew has elected to dump the Canadian model it has used since 2002. They'll be racing in Beijing with a boat made in Germany.

"Some brands just feel a little better," said Hamilton, a native of Richmond, B.C. "It's not really much different than a golfer changing his clubs. We're looking for every edge we can get, and we feel better with the boat we're using now."

Of course, it's not the carriage that wins the race. It's the horses. And the Canadians believe they have the horses, most of whom are from B.C. — Hamilton, Seiterle, Kevin Light, Ben Rutledge and Malcom Howard. Coxswain Brian Price, newcomer Andrew Byrnes and Adam Kreek are from Ontario. Jake Wetzel is from Saskatchewan.

- The men's eight will be looking to secure a spot in the final by winning their heat on Sunday.

Original supermodels make comeback

In the next week or so, some very important September issues of fashion magazines arrive on newsstands. They will feature such legendary faces as Linda Evangelista, Christy Turlington and Naomi Campbell – the Holy Trinity, as they were known in '90s – in some of the most influential fashion ads. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Style

Battling cruelty with nudity

Champion swimmer Amanda Beard, left, is being called not only one of the sexiest but also one of the most compassionate Olympic athletes of all time. Beard, who appeared in Playboy magazine in 2007, now bares all in a new PETA ad protesting fashion furs with the tagline "Be Comfortable in Your Own Skin. Don't Wear Fur." According to a press release on the athlete's website (*amandabeard.net*), Beard posed nude to help raise awareness of the cruelty inherent in the fur industry. METRO NEWS SERVICE

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE COLACINO, ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Game on footwear

With the Olympics finally here, what better time to strap your feet into a pair of Grecian sandals?

Perhaps because there were no lucrative footwear sponsorships – unlike the label-crazed Olympics today – the ancient Greek athletes ran in bare feet.

And with Olympic fever beginning to mount as the Games in Beijing draw closer, ordinary mortals are taking to the streets in one of summer's hot trends: Grecian sandals. But unlike the simple rope and leather styles the ancient Athenians wore, these have the powerful warrior-like look of Roman gladiators, brandishing studs, metal rings or armour-like shin plates.

And since lesser athletic goddesses can only dream of footwear sponsorship – a fashionista's ultimate idea of heaven – you can comfort yourself with the fact that some of these sandals at least come in winning Olympic colours: gold, silver and bronze.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE
WITH FILES FROM
METRO NEWS SERVICES

Lansing Leather sandal, $30, Aldo *www.aldoshoes.com*

Fariya leather sandal, $90, Aldo *www.aldoshoes.com*

Bronzed snake-print ankle-strap sandals, $89.99, Icon

Silver snake-print sandals, $100, Nine West

Shalonda PVC sandal, $39.99, Spring Shoes www.myspringshoes.com

Silver studded sandals, $79.95, Town Shoes.

Bronzed ring slippers, $90, Nine West

Training bottoms fit for an athlete

ask kim

Where can I find Kipling bags in Toronto?

- Helena, Toronto

Kipling is famous for designing gorgeous leather bags and although they don't have any stores in Canada there are small retailers across the country that sell Kipling. Both De Catarina-Bonny (55 Bloor St. W., 416-966-0562) and Taschen Inc. (65 Yonge St., 416-363-3663) in Toronto carry the famous Belgian brand.

E-mail your style questions to *kim.elbo@metronews. ca.*

Vancouver's Kim Elbo has a passion for fashion. Here she shares her latest style tips.

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Designer: Joe Fresh
Shop: Superstore
Address: Various Locations
joe.ca

$35

Running Tempo Short
Designer: Nike
Shop: Sport Check
Address: Various Locations
sportchek.ca

$100

Multi Tights
Designer: Peak Performance
Shop: Peak Performance
Address: 919 Robson St.
peakperformance.com

$110

Hexride
Designer: Reebok
Shop: Athletes World
Address: Various Locations
athletesworld.ca

$140

Ariel
Designer: Brooks
Shop: Running Room
Address: 11688 Steveston Hwy
runningroom.com

$150

Lunar Trainer
Designer: Nike
Shop: Nike Store
Address: Various Locations
nike.com

tip: Bring an old pair of running shoes with you next time you're out shopping for a new pair. The expert employees should be able to "read" your old shoes and guide your choice. — *ehow.com*

run with it

Ready, set, go! Today is the official start of the Beijing Olympics. Whether you're watching it to see how your favourite athlete is competing or checking in on how the men's diving team is, well diving, then jump in along with the athletes and start training. The best place to start is by wearing the right training bottom. Look for shorts with mesh inserts, pockets and a high cut along the outer side of the thigh area for ventilation and ease of running. Pants should have side zips and a smooth elastic band for comfort.

accessory

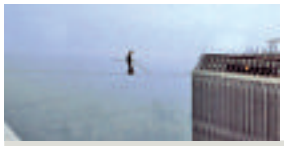
Wash the sweat right out with Win laundry detergent, formulated specifically for workout wear. $7.99 Available at Shoppers Drug Mart.

technical shoes

You can't train without a proper shoe. Here are a couple that'll get you ready for your next marathon or your next walk in the park. The Brooks shoes is a good shoe to start with, it's in the mid price range so you know it's good quality for a little wear and tear as you start out. The Hexride by Reebok is one of my favorites; I've worked out in this shoe plenty of times, it's lightweight, comfortable and the right price. In the next two weeks watch out for Lunar Trainer on the track in Beijing. US athletes will be debuting the ultra light shoe that Nike claims to be 'Strong as Steel, Light as A Feather.'

review pg 16

Man on Wire captivating



metro weekend

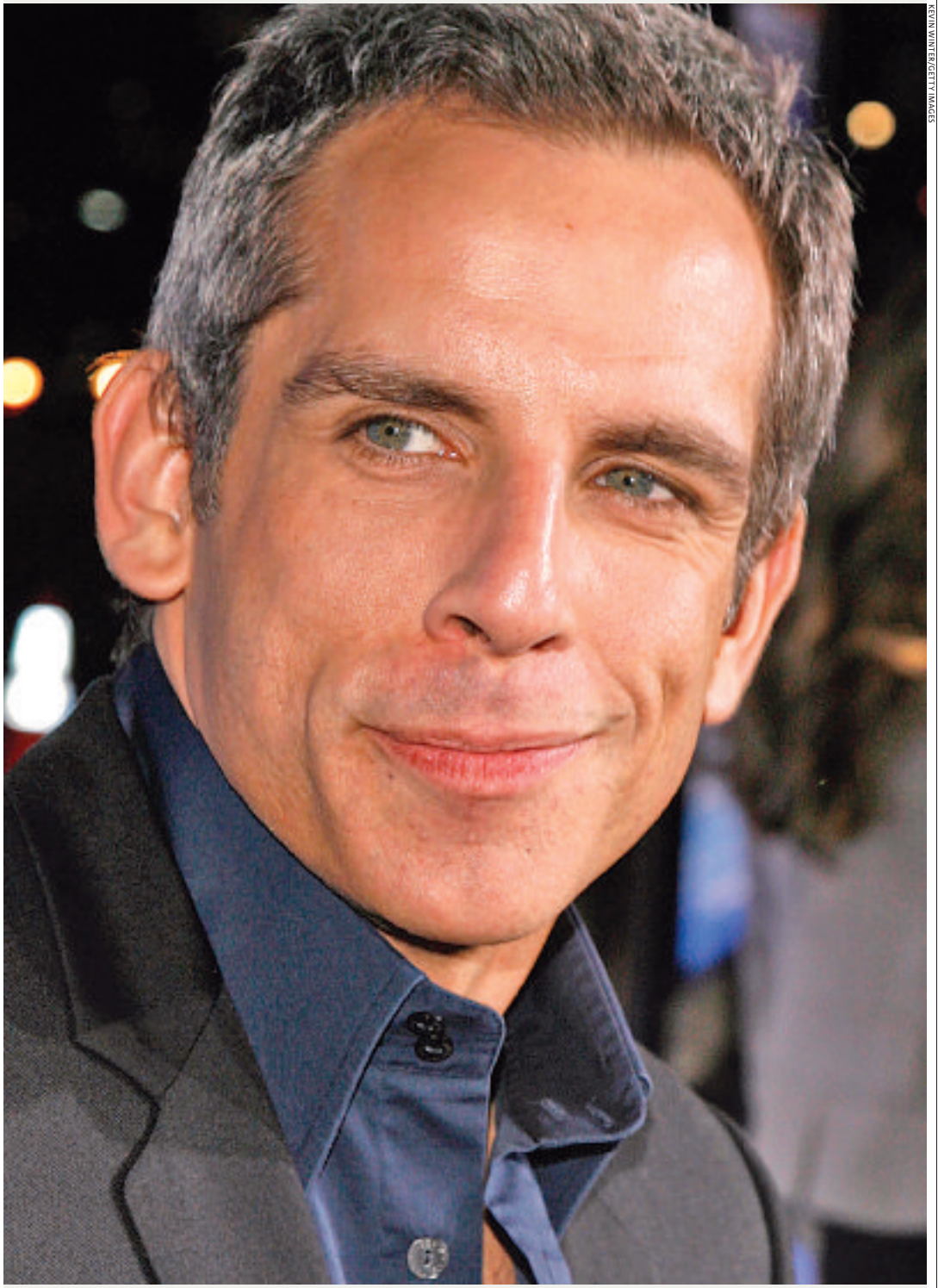
VANCOUVER AUGUST 8-10 2008 metronews.ca

7th heaven pg 23

Duffy the face of Nivea

Man of Thunder

pg 14



KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES

Ben Stiller initially hesitated about acting in Tropic Thunder, the movie he was writing and directing. His original pick for the role of Tugg Speedman? None other than Tom Cruise.

music pg 20

Juno-winning Colin James digs deep for cover songs.

urban foodie pg 25

Elixir has dramatically evolved since opening.

westcoast pg 24

Crankworx simply an amazing event for bikers.

Movies

EDITOR: KASIA IGLINSKI, KASIA.IGLINSKI@METRONEWS.CA

A CLASSIC; EXCELLENT; GOOD; FAIR; POOR

Actors get Thunder-struck

Stars take us behind the scenes of Ben Stiller's latest comedy

KIM LINEKIN
for Metro Canada

Jack Black, left, and Ben Stiller are two of the stars in Tropic Thunder, which opens Wednesday.

Everyone in Tropic Thunder owes something to someone else. Before making the film, Ben Stiller hesitated about acting in it as well as cowriting and directing.

The guy he envisioned as Tugg Speedman, action star so desperate for a hit that he makes a war movie in a real jungle with hidden cameras? Tom Cruise.

"(Cruise) was lined up to play Ben's part, then Ben rethought it and put himself in the role," says Steve Coogan, who plays the director within the film.

According to Justin Theroux, Stiller's cowriter and executive producer, "In my mind, Ben was always going to play that part. He's done aging action stars well, previously in The Ben Stiller Show."

But Cruise is a friend of Stiller's, and got involved anyway. "He read the script and he was like, 'You have fun (mocking) actors – it'd be great to see you doing something with a studio guy,'" says Stiller.

Thus, the character of Les Grossman, foul-mouthed studio boss, was born, and Cruise was hooked.

"The studio head character was pretty small originally, and it was Tom who kept saying, 'That character should be bigger,' and eventually he ended up playing it," says Coogan.

It's not hard to see why Cruise wanted to poke fun at studio heads, given his well-publicized 2006 rift with Viacom CEO Sumner Redstone.

"There's nothing better for an actor in Tom's position than to be able to satirize that which he is involved in, and he went at it with glee," says Nick Nolte, whose own Vietnam vet character owes something to Oliver Stone.

Interestingly, Robert Downey Jr.'s character — an acclaimed Australian actor who dyes his skin to play an African American — wasn't based on Russell Crowe.

"He was written as an Irishman," reveals Stiller, "then (Downey) said, 'I think I can improvise better in Australian.'"

Downey's inspiration remained Irish.

"I was thinking of Colin Ferrell, particularly when I'm standing out on the balcony (naked). I also wanted to have a love child in my hand. I just wanted to be like, 'How dare you look at this baby I had with this woman you've never met?'"

Downey was so inspired by Tropic Thunder, he got Theroux the job of writing the Iron Man sequel.

"It's hugely intimidating," admits Theroux, "but also exciting because you're writing for Robert Downey Jr.

"So at the end of the day, that's an enormous amount of fun."

American Teen a trip into halls of high school

RICK McGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

American Teen

Director: Nanette Burstein
Classification: PG
Rating:

The undeniable star of Nanette Burstein's American Teen is Hannah, who introduces herself in the first 10 minutes of the film as a brash, happy misfit at her suburban Indiana high school, a square peg in what appears to be a sea of round holes. Burstein spent a year following a group of high school seniors around with her camera crew, hoping to make a portrait of teen life that was neither glamourized nor exploitative.

She must have responded to Hannah with relief, so quickly does the girl dominate the screen, utterly confident in both her direction — away from Indiana, as soon as graduation is over, she hopes, and into a career making films – and her boyfriend. The semester has barely started, however, when Hannah gets dumped, and all that self-confidence and rebellious disregard for what anyone thinks of her dissolves in teary depression, and a sudden, painful anxiety about how weak she must look.

Hannah eventually pulls herself together, but not before Megan starts to take over centre stage. A walking précis of the most popular girl in school — blonde, affluent, cheerleader; you name it — Megan looks like she has it all, but we soon discover that her choice of college is causing no end of strife at home, and her closest friendships are a hornet's nest waiting to erupt. Unlike Hannah, however, Megan handles these more acutely agonizing troubles with levelheadedness that it's hard not to admire, and thus a classic high school dichotomy is upended before our eyes.

If high school memories still make you wince, American Teen is a guaranteed migraine flashback to a period most of us survive more than we enjoy, and Burstein's film has the added bonus of denying anyone who thinks otherwise the easy comforts of closure, beyond prom and grad and the vertiginous ejection into college and life beyond.

Amal unmoved as worlds collide

Amal

Director: Richard Mehta
Stars: Rupinder Nagra, Koel Purie, Naseeruddin Shah
Classification: 14A
Rating:

JIM REYNO
jim.reyno@metronews.ca

Amal, the gentle auto-rickshaw driver at the centre of Mehtra's film, could never have played for baseball manager Leo Durocher. Durocher once reportedly said that nice guys finish last. But what if the nice guy doesn't even consider it a competition?

Amal, portrayed by Hamilton-raised actor Rupinder Nagra, leads an honest, unfettered life. There's family, work. That's it. In the bustling Indian city of New Delhi, surrounded by characters obsessed with money, Amal is as ambitious as a nap — and just as peaceful. Mehta brings these worlds together, and he does so without resorting to the usual fish-out-of-water clichés.

Nagra's performance is all restraint and subtlety. He says much more with his eyes and facial expressions than he does when he speaks. Koel Purie is the merchant Pooja Seth, a frequent customer of Amal's, and his love interest in the film. Their screen chemistry is half longing, half tension, and it comes off beautifully. With these two, a simple gesture like a hand touch (finally!) is sexually explosive.

Nagra has said when he initially read the story of Amal, he was put off by the ending. There's no doubt, some viewers will be frustrated. Some may even go so far as to say it's a copout. Others will say it's fitting. Amal might say it is what it is.

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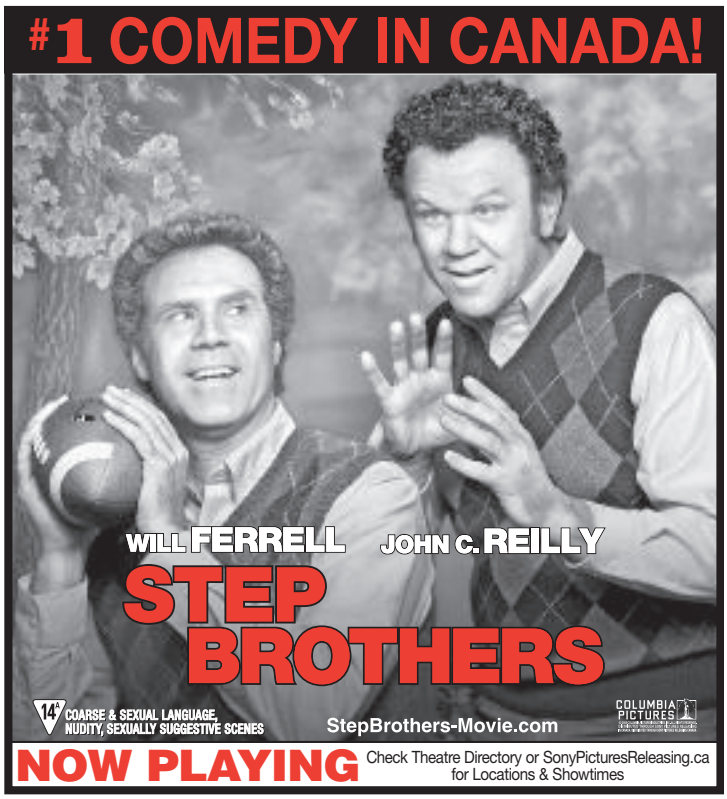
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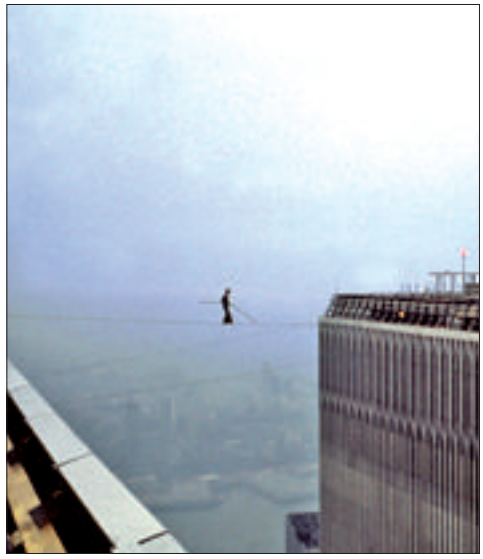
Film walks the line of dramatic, funny

Man on Wire

Director: James Marsh
Stars: Phillippe Petit, Annie Allix
Classification: PG
Rating: ●●●●1/2

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada


James Marsh's Man On Wire is in theatres today.

In 1974, Phillippe Petit was an eccentric French acrobat who wore a top hat, rode a unicycle, juggled — and oh, I almost forgot — broke into the World Trade Center and traversed the top of the Twin Towers on nothing but a high wire.

If, like me, this little fact is nothing but a vague slice of obscure pop culture, Man on Wire will truly captivate you. A compelling, highly-stylized flick by director James Marsh (The King), this stunning accomplishment is documented through dramatic and often hilarious re-enactments, actual footage of intense preparation and fascinating interviews with the enigmatic Petit — a man so focused on his bizarre goal that he won't let security guards, fear of death or even stepping on a nail get in his way.

As amazing as his storied achievement is, the entire tale plays out, as Petit's wife says, "like a bank robbery".

True enough.

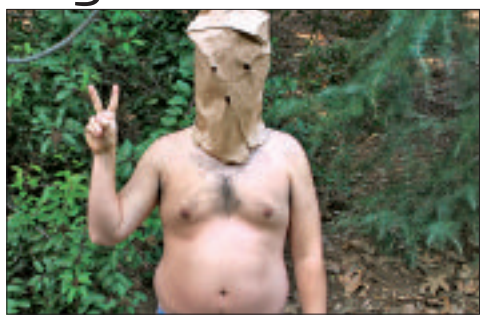
Man on Wire is indeed an unlikely nail-biting heist film involving undercover stakeouts, jilted attempts and "inside men". The fact that a feat like this could hardly happen in today's security-obsessed climate or that it involves the Twin Towers only gives the movie even more weight.

Baghead uncovers quirky, entertaining movie

Baghead

Director: Jay & Mark Duplass
Stars: Ross Partridge, Greta Gerwig
Classification: 14A
Rating: ●●½

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada


The lo-fi comedy, Badhead, attemps to re-invigorate the tired notion of the stalker/sasher genre.

Here's a premise: A foursome spend a weekend at a remote cabin in the woods only to find themselves terrorized by a mysterious figure. What? You say you've seen this before? Well, in the case of Baghead, you probably actually haven't.

This lo-fi comedy attempts to re-invigorate the tired notion of the stalker/slasher genre with the story of a quartet of desperate actors looking to catch a break by going into the woods to write a film for themselves. As procrastination, personal drama and a lack of ideas pile up, their intent is soon upstaged by an intruder who pops up wearing a paper bag over his noggin.

Now, let's face it, these characters are dimwits. But unlike most Hollywood slasher pics that attempt to pass off stupid characters as crafty, Baghead pulls no punches: these characters are plain dumb.

Baghead isn't for everyone however. Intended to cross genres, it mixes moments of suspense with the monotony of real conversation between mundane people. The result is a quirky, entertaining film that questions how those fools in thrillers like The Hills Have Eyes would actually behave under pressure. The answer: not good.

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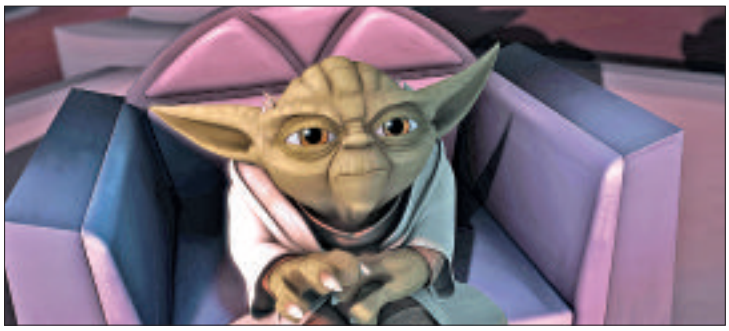
Reel Time

Star Wars gets animated

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada



Yoda returns – in animation – in Star Wars: The Clone Wars, opening this weekend.

FEATURE George Lucas is a boldfaced liar. He said he was finished with the Star Wars franchise. Forever.

But sure enough, here we are, three years after Revenge of the Sith hit theatres and sci-fi fans are gearing up for the big-screen return of Star Wars: The Clone Wars.

Set sometime between the Attack of the Clones and Sith, this installment pits Anakin Skywalker in the middle of an intergalactic war led by Count Dooku. There, he joins Obi-Wan to lead the charge against the separatist army for the freedom of the Old Republic (it helps if you've seen the other movies).

Yes, it's all very exciting but there's just one catch: The Clone Wars is a cartoon.

"Animation is an area George has always wanted to explore," director Dave Filoni says during an interview at Lucas' Big Rock Ranch outside of San Francisco. "As far back as his college days he worked a little bit in animation. He loved old Warner Brothers cartoons so it was kind of a natural for him."

Well, Lucas did actually have a hand in helping launch Pixar — the animation giant behind Wall-E and Finding Nemo.

As such, Lucas decided to tell his Star Wars story combining such disparate influences as computer animation and anime.

"It allowed us to be very dynamic and aggressive with the things in Star Wars," explains Filoni.

"All the things that were pushing your imagination already, we slid into an animation world and really intensified."

"I had a lot of freedom. Pretty much (Lucas) said make it something nobody had ever seen before and make it great and he sent me out the door." With that freedom, Filoni was able to craft new characters, including Ahsoka Tano, a young Jedi who is assigned the task of Skywalker's apprentice.

"The writer and I kind of thought, 'well, it would be great to have a girl'. We haven't seen a girl Jedi really as a focus character," insists Filoni. "It was fun. I got to pick what alien species she is because she's not totally human."

Time will tell how audiences will react to Ahsoka (will she be Boba Fett or Jar Jar Binks?) or if fans will embrace this latest Star Wars installment, but one thing's for sure — if George Lucas is satisfied, this galaxy from long ago and far, far away may not be over yet.

Smells like Teen spirit

RICK MCGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

FEATURE There's a knowing joke in the poster for American Teen, Nanette Burstein's year-in-the-life doc about a group of seniors at a Midwestern American high school. Knowing how much teen movies have defined teenage life, they've posed the five teens featured in the film in the same poses and costumes as the cast of The Breakfast Club.

Reliving high school is painful enough, but Burstein's film ends up allowing us a bit of distance from it all as we see so many echoes of two decades of teen films playing out in front of us. Hannah, the creative girl from the wrong side of the tracks, ends up being the film's Molly Ringwald when her romance with Mitch precisely mimics Pretty In Pink.

"More than you think," Burstein agrees with a laugh, "because (Hannah's) best friend, Clark, was totally in love with her. We would actually joke and call him Duckie. I would see these stories happening when I was growing up. I don't think they're emulating the movies; I think the movies are emulating them, but what I think the movies are doing is then making them fairy tales. I wanted to do a film that was far more honest."

Entering the world of high school students meant living with the rules of high school, arbitrary and maddening as they might be — as Burstein learned during the months she spent with the kids.

"It would bring back a lot of memories, and a lot of feelings," she recalls.

"And they would make up crazy rumours about each other, and then other kids would start making up crazy rumours about the film crew.

"It made me feel the injustice of it all, and it made me remember high school when you would hear things about yourself that you knew were totally untrue, but it didn't seem to matter."

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Screen Times

THIS PAGE COVERS START TIMES FROM FRI., AUG. 8 TO THURS., AUG. 14. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

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This week's new releases are highlighted in red.

Vancouver

OMNIMAX THEATRE SCIENCE WORLD
1455 Quebec St., 604-443-7443

The Alps (STC) Fri-Thu 12-2-4 Fri-Sat 8:30

Australia: Land Beyond Time (STC) Sat 7:30

Dinosaurs Alive! (STC) Fri-Thu 1

Extra Large Shorts (STC) Fri-Thu 5

Grand Canyon Adventure: River at Risk (STC) Fri-Thu 11-3 Fri 7:30

CN IMAX THEATRE
201-999 Canada Place, 604-682-4629

African Adventure 3D: Safari in the Okavango (STC) Fri-Thu 5-7

Deep Sea 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11-4-6-9

Dinosaurs 3D: Giants of Patagonia (STC) Fri-Thu 1-3

Dolphins and Whales 3D: Tribes of the Ocean (G) Fri-Thu 12-2-8-10

DUNBAR THEATRE
4555 Dunbar Street, 604-222-2991

The Dark Knight (14A) Fri 7:10:10 Sat-Sun 3-7-10:10 Mon-Thu 7-10:10

FIFTH AVENUE CINEMAS
2110 Burrard Street, 604-734-7469

America the Beautiful (STC) Tue 2-5

Before the Rains (PG) Fri-Mon 2-4:20-7:30-9:35 Tue 7:30-9:35 Wed 2-7:30-9:35 Thu 2-4:20-9:35

Brideshead Revisited (PG) Fri-Tue 1:05-4:05-6:50-9:30 Wed 1:05-4:05-9:30 Thu 1:05-4:05-6:50-9:30

The Dark Knight (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-7:10

Mamma Mia! (PG) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:35-7:10-9:25

Man on Wire (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:20-5:20-7:20-9:20

GRANVILLE
855 Granville St., 604-684-4000

The Incredible Hulk (14A) Fri-Thu 9:25

Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:15-7-9:45

Iron Man (PG) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:30-7:10-9:50

Journey to the Center of the Earth (PG) Fri 1:40-4:35-6:55 Sat-Sun 4:35-6:55 Mon-Wed 1:40-4:35-6:55 Thu 1:40-6:55

Kung Fu Panda (G) Fri-Thu 2-4:45-7:20

The Last Continent (G) Fri-Wed 1:55-4:40-7:15-9:30 Thu 4:40-9:30

The Last Mistress (18A) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:25-7:05-9:35

Opus Arte — Spartacus (Ballet) (STC) Sat 1

Pure Pwnage Double Feature World Premiere (STC) Sun 1

The X-Files: I Want to Believe (14A) Fri-Thu 1:35-4:20-6:50-9:20

Young People F...ing (18A) Fri-Wed 9:40

HOLLYWOOD THEATRE
3123 W. Broadway, 604-738-3211
hollywoodtheatre.ca

Amazing Grace (PG) Fri 9:25 Sat-Sun 3:25-9:25 Mon-Thu 9:25

The Visitor (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30

OAKRIDGE
650 West 41st Ave., 604-263-1944

The Dark Knight (14A) Fri-Thu 3:15-6:30-9:40

Pineapple Express (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:30-4-7:10-9:50

WALL-E (G) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:50-7-9:30

PACIFIC CINÉMATHÈQUE
1131 Howe Street, 604-688-3456
cinematheque.bc.ca

Double Indemnity (STC) Fri 7:30 Sat 9:20

The Glass Key (STC) Wed 7:30 Thu 9:15

Murder, My Sweet (STC) Sat 7:30 Sun 9:05

National Velvet (STC) Sun 1

Phantom Lady (STC) Mon 9:15 Thu 7:30

Pushover (STC) Fri 9:30 Mon 7:30

This Gun for Hire (STC) Sun 7:30 Wed 9:10

PARK THEATRE
3440 Cambie Street, 604-876-2747

Conversations With My Gardener (PG) Fri 4-7-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:45-4-7-9:15 Mon-Thu 4-7-9:15

RIDGE THEATRE
3131 Arbutus Street, 604-738-6311

Amal (PG) Fri 4-7-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:45-4-7-9:15 Mon-Thu 4-7-9:15

Casablanca (STC) A.M. Sun 10

Spartacus (Ballet) (STC) Sat 10

RIO ON BROADWAY
1660 E. Broadway, 604-878-Film
riotheatre.ca

Pineapple Express (18A) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 4:30-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30

SCOTIABANK THEATRE VANCOUVER
900 Burrard St., 604-630-1407

The Dark Knight (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:45-3:10-6:50-10:20 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10-3:40-7:15-10:40

Hancock (PG) Fri-Tue 12:40-3:50-7:10-9:50

Mamma Mia! (PG) Fri-Tue 12:20-3:30-6:40-9:40 Wed-Thu 12:20-3:50-6:40-9:40

The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (14A) No Passes Fri-Wed 12:30-4-7-10 No Passes Thu 12:30-4-10 No Passes Fri-Thu 1-4:30-7:40-10:30

Pineapple Express (18A) No Passes Fri-Sat 11:50-1:10-2:30-4:20-5:10-7:20-8:10-10:15-11:15 No Passes Sun-Tue 11:50-1:10-2:30-4:20-5:10-7:20-8:10-10:15-11 No Passes Wed-Thu 12-1:10-2:40-4:20-5:15-7:20-8:10-10:20-11

Tropic Thunder (18A) No Passes Wed-Thu 11:50-12:40-2:30-3:30-5:10-7:30-8:10:30-10:50

Wanted (18A) Fri-Sun 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:50 Mon 12:50-4:10-10:50 Tue 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:50

TINSELTOWN
International Village, 88 West Pender, 3rd floor, 604-806-0799
cinemark.com

American Teen (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:25-2:55-5:20-7:45-10:10

Baghead (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:10-3:20-5:30-7:40-9:45

Brideshead Revisited (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:25-4:25-7:25-10:20

Get Smart (PG) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:40-7:50-10:30

Hellboy II: The Golden Army (14A) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:45-7:30-10:15

Man on Wire (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:50-3:05-5:25-7:35-9:50

Sex and the City (18A) Fri-Thu 12-3:25-7:20-10:25

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2 (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:15-4:10-7:10-9:55

Step Brothers (14A) Fri-Thu 12:45-2-3:15-4:30-5:45-7-8:15-9:30-10:35

Swing Vote (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:20-4:15-7:15-10

WALL-E (G) Fri-Mon 1:55-4:20-7:05-9:35 Tue 1:55-4:20-9:35 Wed-Thu 1:55-4:20-7:05-9:35

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The Dark Knight (14A) Fri 7-10 Sat-Sun 4-7-10 Mon-Tue 7-10

Tropic Thunder (18A) Wed-Thu 7-9:25

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The Dark Knight (14A) Fri 1-2-4:20-6:30-8-9:45 Sat 2-4:20-6:30-8-9:45 Sun-Thu 1-2-4:20-6:30-8-9:45

Journey to the Center of the Earth 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:30-7:10-9:20

Opus Arte - Spartacus (Ballet) (STC) Sat 1

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4-7:05-9:50

Step Brothers (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:10-7

WALL-E (G) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:15-7:15-9:35

Movie morsels

The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor

●●

REVIEW Rick O'Connell (Brendan Fraser) returns to action with his wife (Maria Bello) after his son digs up the tomb of an evil Emporer and … well, as O'Connell exclaims, "there's a mummy on the loose!" Nobody expects perfection from this type of movie, but here, dialogue is expository and unfunny and the visual effects only mildly distract from a plot that leaves this mummy as thrilling as a 2,000 year old bag of bones.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Pineapple Express

●●●½

REVIEW Produced by Judd Apatow and starring Hollywood's favorite court jester Seth Rogen, this film is a Midnight Run-type caper about a dope-smoking process server who goes on the lam with his hapless drug dealer (James Franco) after witnessing a murder.

Sure, it's a hollow story and the pacing is uneven, but this comedy still works as an impossibly hip comedy about impossibly uncool characters.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Bestselling albums at Amazon.ca

1. Viva La Vida, Coldplay; 2. Mamma Mia! Soundtrack, Various Artists; 3. Fortune's Favour, Great Big Sea; 4. Two Men with the Blues, Willie Nelson and Wynton Marsalis; 5. All I Intended To Be, Emmylou Harris. METRO

Music

Colin James sings the blues

Multiple Juno winner digs through record collections in search of older material

MAPLE MUSIC PHOTO

Colin James headlines the 9th Annual Burnaby Blues and Roots Festival this Sunday at Deer Lake Park. Other performers include Jonny Lang, Ryan Shaw and Shelby Lynn.

OnTheBeat

Rob McMahon

rob.mcmahon@metronews.ca

Picture Colin James, and one imagines a multiple Juno-winning singer-guitarist known for delivering soulful renditions of blues, swing and rock classics by artists like Ray Charles and Jackie Wilson.

Yet James is also partial to bumpin' Gnarls Barkley, Feist and Amy Winehouse. Asked his take on these artists, each of whom draws from classic forms of soul, folk and blues, James said he loves them.

"Amy Winehouse, she's the real deal — she pulls that stuff off in a big way," said James. "Her talent is undeniable … Listen to what she's doing … it could have been put out 20 or 30 years ago … I love it — seeing my kids reacting to something and it's not contrived."

" iTunes is not that developed when it comes to traditional music — AC/DC doesn't even show up!" Colin James

That link to the past comes from Winehouse's retro production style as much as her choice of songs to cover and vocal inspirations: three aspects of classic tunes close to James' approach. Despite his shifts from jump blues to funky rock and back, James — who's preparing for the Burnaby Blues and Roots Festival and a month-long trek aboard the Spirit Train to promote the 2010 Olympic Games — remains a lifelong blues lover.

When preparing material for his Little Big Band project (now in its third volume) James digs through record stores, sifts through vinyl and even wires up his old DATs: anything to hear those old masterpieces. The process isn't so much a ritual transporting James back to the analogue era as a way to get older material. Despite the accessibility of digital recordings, aside from compilation CDs, it's tough to find that stuff.

"With Little Big Band, I'm three records in, so there's not much material to draw from," he said. "For a project like that, I'll lock myself in my basement with a bunch of records and phone people I know to ask them their opinion (on other songs). It's an excuse to go out and buy great records … iTunes is not that developed when it comes to traditional music — AC/DC doesn't even show up!"

TOP 10 MOBILE DOWNLOADS

1 I Kissed A Girl Katy Perry
2 Lollipop Lil Wayne
3 Just Dance Lady GaGa
4 A Milli Lil Wayne
5 Dangerous Kardinal Offishall
6 When I Grow Up Pussycat Dolls
7 Calabria 2007 Enur
8 Shake It Metro Station
9 Low Flo Rida
10 Love In This Club Usher

rogers.com/musicstore

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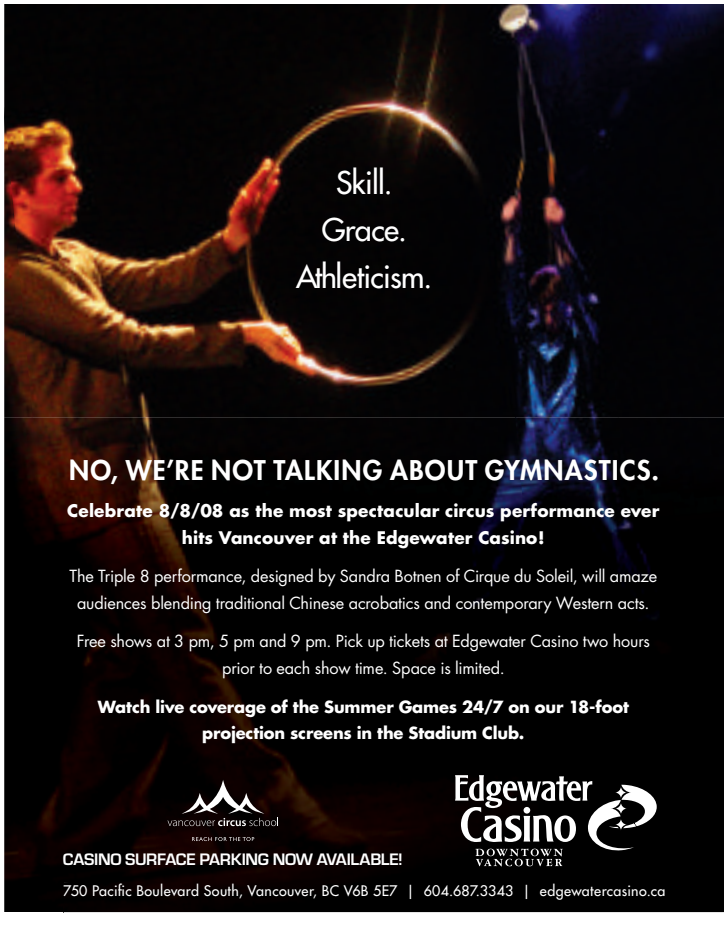

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This Day In Music History
On August 8, 1969 the cover photo is taken for the Beatles' Abbey Road. REUTERS

Music

Brazilian Girls' global sound

New York City electronic band blends a world of styles on newest album

ROB MCMAHON
for Metro Canada

Brazilian Girls vocalist Sabina Sciubba is rushing around Manhattan, making asides in either German or Italian and organizing transportation to a video shoot while conducting an interview.

Her group's new disc, aptly titled New York City, is a similarly global mash-up of house beats, pop melodies, ballads, distorted downtempo drum n' bass, cabaret jams and a dozen other inspirations. These sounds are anchored by Sciubba's jazzy vocals, themselves a descriptive mix of high- and low-brow culture: Pablo Neruda and peeing in swimming pools.

"Mash-ups are natural to our current epoch, because all influences are all available, especially with the Internet," she said. "The mash-up lyrics tend to come naturally…It's part of (members) personalities, laughing and not taking ourselves seriously — though we take the music seriously."

VLADIMIR RADUNICA/UNIVERSAL MUSIC

New York City — the new album from Brazilian Girls — was released earlier this week.

The three guys and Sciubba met at a jam session in New York hipster jazz club Nublu. Sciubba, bassist Jesse Murphy and drummer Aaron Johnston hopped onstage one night after keyboardist Didi Gutman, bored with his solo gig, invited people up. The jam resulted in an immediate connection.

Asked if the band identify as a kind of world-music version of Hot Chip, given both groups retain a pop core but surround it with vocal leads, a spastic, dance-friendly approach to rhythm and open-minded use of details, Sciubba cringed at the characterization.

"World music is a very dangerous expression, since it makes me think of synthy songs with some oriental female vocalist," she said. "We're playing folk (music), pop music—pop music is popular, and I'm popular, so it's all good … We also use a few lullabies, which are very much something everyone can sing to."

The group's cultural and musical eclecticism also serves a political purpose. Reading punk-era designer Vivian Westwood's manifesto Resistance to Propaganda and reflecting on her childhood in Rome, Nice, Munich and Brooklyn, Sciubba hopes her music helps preserve the local character of such areas. She remembers walking around Berlin on tour and marveling how after being destroyed and rebuilt, it remains vibrant and alive in the face of homogenous development.

"I like variety — in architecture, in the way people dress…but now everyone just wears jeans and a t-shirt," she said. "(I like) that idea of resistance, of adapting as human beings. (But) I find it hard to believe with these huge blocks and towers (around me). If you live in it, it's depressing…(you lose) that sense of aesthetics, and it's all just sharp and hard lines."

TOP 10
MOBILE DOWNLOADS
1 I Kissed A Girl — Katy Perry
2 Lollipop — Lil Wayne
3 Just Dance — Lady GaGa
4 A Milli — Lil Wayne
5 Dangerous — Kardinal Offishall
6 When I Grow Up — Pussycat Dolls
7 Calabria 2007 — Enur
8 Shake It — Metro Station
9 Low — Flo Rida
10 Love In This Club — Usher
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Rock seeps into China

SoundCheck

Alan Cross
alan@ongoinghistory.com

Alan's government-assigned guide had never heard of U2.

Widespread access to rock launched social, economic, artistic, political and sexual revolutions in the West.

The thing I remember most about Beijing was how it tasted. Not the Peking Duck available along Wangfujing or the local delicacies at the Donghuamen Night Market. It was the air: particulate lead, cadmium and chromium, seasoned with sulphur and garnished with dust from the encroaching Gobi desert. Whatever you've been reading about Beijing's pollution problem is not exaggerated. If anything, it's being underreported.

The second thing that struck me was how Western the city was trying to be. Young people are spending huge amounts on luxury goods, both real and fake. They also want to rock.

My state-assigned guide, Emily — real name: Wan Ting; her English teacher encouraged her Westernization by having her take the first name of her favourite writer, Emily Bronte — was most proud of the iPod Nano knock-off she bought at Silk Alley, the seven-floor state-sponsored temple to trademark infringement east of Tiananmen Square. Her playlists, however, were a little thin, consisting of lots of Celine Dion ("We love her in China!") and a female singer-songwriter from New Zealand of whom I had never heard, despite Emily's protestations that she was in fact very big all over the world.

Emily had never heard of U2 or Coldplay. She was aware of the Beatles and the Rolling Stones, but claimed not to like anything they've done. And when I asked her where she got her music for her iFake, she said "Our government allows us to download whatever music we like from the Internet. We don't have to pay for our music like you do in the West!" She then launched into the glories of China's one child policy.

To be fair, there's not much of a music industry in China outside of the pirates who press counterfeit CDs. The main avenue for music discovery is online, usually through Baidu, the big Internet service.

But change is coming. First, Google launched a China-only music search engine this week that gives users access to free legal downloads. Second, hoards of Westerners are descending for the Olympics, many of whom are bringing along their morally corrupting rock music. Widespread access to rock launched social, economic, artistic, political and sexual revolutions in the West. Could the Olympics be the Trojan horse by which this virus is fully introduced into China?

More on China, the Olympics and rock next week.

The Ongoing History of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read the daily Music Geek blog at ongoinghistory.com

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Braff, Appleby give it another go
Scrubs star Zach Braff has reunited with former flame Shiri Appleby, nine months after they split. Friends confirm they are dating again. IMDB.COM

TV

Politics of TV ratings

IntelleVision
Rick McGinnis
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

TALK THE VOTE: As everyone from the Catholic Church to Sharon Stone has learned, playing politics is often a losing game, and now it seems that Oprah Winfrey is the latest to get an education in this elemental law of nature.

The New York Post's Page Six ran a story this week on how two University of Maryland economists had concluded that Winfrey had delivered a million votes to U.S. presidential candidate Barack Obama in the Democratic primaries. Using "complex numerical formulas" based on book sales, TV ratings, voter turnout, mean average temperatures for primary states based on previous election years, traffic patterns, college enrolment figures, the price of oil and the number of times Randy Jackson said "dog" during the last season of American Idol, Craig Garthwaite and Tim Moore were able to calculate that Winfrey was the motivating force behind precisely 1,015,519 primary votes for Obama, and his startling defeat of once-sure-thing Hillary Clinton.

This manifestation of political clout is a double-edged sword, however, as it was earlier noted that Winfrey's ratings had dropped since she came out for Obama last fall. In a piece in the Los Angeles Times' Top Of The Ticket political blog, Andrew Malcolm detailed how Winfrey's show has lost half a million viewers since this time last year, and how her "favorable ratings had fallen from 74% to 66% while her unfavorable ratings jumped by more than 50% from 17% to 26%."

A mention of this shift of public opinion last April, while the Democratic primaries were still a contested thing, prompted an avalanche of comments on the Times blog by female Hillary supporters angry about Winfrey abandoning what they considered the most viable female presidential candidate ever. As noted on several blogs at the same time was the likelihood a notable portion of Winfrey's viewership — stay-at-home mothers — might have been Republican supporters.

Winfrey's ratings have been declining for longer than the current election cycle, however, as the Times noted a drop in viewers from nine million during the show's zenith three years ago to 7.3 million today, with a 25 per cent loss of her female audience between 25 and 54 during the same period. Still, it could have been worse; she could have endorsed Ralph Nader — or Ron Paul.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

DAVID MCNEW/GETTY IMAGES

Oprah Winfrey, right, joins Michelle Obama, wife of U.S. presidential nominee Barack Obama, left, and California First Lady Maria Shriver at a rally for Obama in California on Feb. 5.

FRIDAY 8/8/08

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	(3:00) XXIX Summer Olympics (Live) (CC)				XXIX Summer Olympics (Live) (CC)				
	255	358	6 CH	E News	The Insider	Mysteries	Mysteries	Dr. 90210 Dr. Rey travels.		Tropic Thunder: THS		News (N)
	250	321	9 CTV	eTalk (CC)	Hollywood	Ghost Whisperer (CC)		Greek "The Rusty Nail" (N)		Without a Trace (CC)		News (N)
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Family Guy	War of the Worlds ★★★ (2005) Tom Cruise, Dakota Fanning, Miranda Otto.					News (N)
	256	389	12 VI	Degrassi	Friends (CC)	Jeff Ltd.	Grand Star	What Comes Around (2006) Emmanuelle Vaugier. (CC) (DVS)				News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Biography "Cameron Diaz"		Stargate SG-1 "Avalon"		The Collector (CC) (DVS)		Reviews
	-	-	14 CW	'70s Show	'70s Show	WWE Friday Night SmackDown! (N) (CC)				Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Ghost Whisperer (CC)		NUMB3RS "Chinese Box"		Swingtown (N) (CC)		News (N)
	287	379	16 NBC	Olympic Zone	XXIX Summer Olympics From Beijing. (Same-day Tape) (CC)							
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Samantha	War of the Worlds ★★★ (2005) Tom Cruise, Dakota Fanning, Miranda Otto.					News (N)
	290	382	23 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Hellboy ★★★ (2004) Ron Perlman, John Hurt. Premiere. (CC)				News (N)	IQ Weekly	Family Guy
news	502	390	23 NW	CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National		XXIX Summer Olympics From Beijing. (CC)		
	500	500	63 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	Sportsnet	MLB Baseball Tampa Bay Rays at Seattle Mariners. (Joined in Progress) (Live)					Sportsnet Connected		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	CFL Football	CFL Football Edmonton Eskimos at BC Lions. From BC Place Stadium in Vancouver. (CC)						SportsCentre	SportsCentre
family	552	543	23 YTV	Spice World ★ (1997) The Spice Girls, Richard E. Grant.				The Next Star (CC)		Falcon Beach (CC) (DVS)		15/Love
	555	545	50 TEL	George	Tom & Jerry	Tom and Jerry	6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	Hellboy: Blood and Iron (2007, Fantasy) (CC)		
	268	354	5 KNO	Emily of New Moon (CC)		The Royal "Doctor Who"		Peking to Paris Gobi desert.		Private Life of a Masterpiece		Why, Wed?
	575	583	20 CMT	Home Imp.	Roseanne	Dedicated "Kellie Pickler"		Reba (CC)	Hope & Faith	Home Imp.	Roseanne	Ed (CC)
cable variety	615	520	31 A&E	The Cleaner "Chaos Theory"		Criminal Minds (CC)		CSI: Miami "Felony Flight"		CSI: NY "Manhattan Manhunt"		The Cleaner
	521	560	34 TLC	Dress	Reception	What Not to Wear "Cheri"		What Not to Wear "Natalie"		Dress	Reception	What Not
	616	522	35 SHO	ReGenesis (CC)		Cold Squad (CC)		Kenny-Spenny	Kenny-Spenny	Webdreams	Webdreams	Sin Cities
	294	650	47 TBS	(6:00) Mr. Deeds ★ (2002)		Sex and-City	Sex and-City	(:10) Once Upon a Time in Mexico ★★ (2003) (PA) (CC)				Glimmer Man
	603	561	55 FN	Diner, Drive-In	Road Tasted	Dinner	Glutton	Iron Chef America (CC)		Tasty Travels	Food Safari	Diner, Drive-In
	320	621	60 CEN	(6:15) Nancy Drew ★★ (2007)		Shoot 'Em Up ★★ (2007, Action) Clive Owen.			Hot Fuzz ★★★ (2007) Simon Pegg, Nick Frost. (CC)			
	581	566	101 MTV	From G's to Gents (CC)		MTV Shuffle (CC)		Living	Living	From G's to Gents (CC)		4REAL (CC)

SATURDAY 8/9/08

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	(3:00) XXIX Summer Olympics (Live) (CC)				XXIX Summer Olympics (Live) (CC)				
	255	358	6 CH	E News	Fashion	A Trick of the Mind (2006, Suspense) Paul Johansson. (CC)				Inside Hollywood "Murderer"		Guy Stuff
	250	321	9 CTV	W-FIVE-S&M: Short & Male		Spirit Bear: The Simon Jackson Story (2005) Ed Begley Jr.				Comedy Now	Comedy Inc.	News (N)
	252	336	11 GTV	Andromeda (CC)		Shark Tale ★★ (2004) Voices of Will Smith, Robert De Niro.				renegade	renegade	News (N)
	256	389	12 VI	New Canoe	Island Week	Kool Countdown (CC)		Law & Order: SVU		Eli Stone "Patience" (CC)		At the Movies
	253	359	13 CITY	Stargate Atlantis (CC)		Murdoch Mysteries (CC)		The Perfect Husband (2004) Tracy Nelson, Michael Riley. (CC)				Role
	-	-	14 CW	CSI: Miami "One of Our Own"		King	King	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	CSI: Miami "Rio" (CC)		Cold Case
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment Tonight (N)		The Unit "Off the Meter"		48 Hours Mystery (N) (CC)		48 Hours Mystery (N) (CC)		News (N)
	287	379	16 NBC	Backroads	Olympic Zone	XXIX Summer Olympics (Same-day Tape) (CC)						
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Shark Tale ★★ (2004) Voices of Will Smith, Robert De Niro.				Eli Stone "Patience" (CC)		KOMO 4 News
	290	382	23 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Cops (CC)	Cops (CC)	America's Most Wanted		News (N)	Scrubs (CC)	MADtv (CC)
news	502	390	23 NW	Mortgage Meltdown (CC)		Sat. Report	Summer	Sat. Report	Mansbridge	Mortgage Meltdown (CC)		Sat. Report
	500	500	63 CNN	Newsroom		Special Investigations		Larry King Live		CNN Saturday Night		
sports	407	419	22 RSP	MLB Baseball Tampa Bay Rays at Seattle Mariners. From Safeco Field in Seattle. (Live)						Sportsnet Connected		Poker
	400	400	30 TSN	(4:30) XXIX Summer Olympics		SportsCentre	NASCAR Racing Nationwide Series -- Zippo 200. (Same-day Tape) (CC)					SportsCentre
family	552	543	23 YTV	Storm Hawks	Storm Hawks	Avatar	Naruto (CC)	Zatch Bell (N)	Bleach (CC)	Storm Hawks	Storm Hawks	Shadow
	555	545	50 TEL	Chaotic	Johnny Test	Chop Socky	6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	Chicken	Rick & Steve	Tripping-Rift
	268	354	5 KNO	National Geographic Specials		Heartbeat (CC)		Midsomer Murders "Tale of Two Hamlets" (CC)				Life Begins
	575	583	20 CMT	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Grand Ole Opry Live		Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Dukes
cable variety	615	520	31 A&E	The X-Files	The Sopranos "The Ride"		Paranormal	The X-Files ★★ (1998) David Duchovny, Gillian Anderson. (CC)				
	521	560	34 TLC	Holmes on Homes (CC)		Flip House	Hope-Home	The Real Estate Pros (CC)		Holmes on Homes (CC)		My First Home
	616	522	35 SHO	(6:00) A Valentine Carol (2007)		Time and Again (2007, Drama) Brooke Burns.				Kenny-Spenny	Kenny-Spenny	Trailer Park
	294	650	47 TBS	Kangaroo Jack ★ (2003) Jerry O'Connell.			(:45) Tommy Boy ★★ (1995) Chris Farley, David Spade. (CC)				(:45) Black Sheep ★ (1996)	
	603	561	55 FN	Top Chef "Improv" (CC)		Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares		Iron Chef America (CC)		Top Chef "Improv" (CC)		Secret Life of
	320	621	60 CEN	(6:30) Daddy Day Camp ★		Across the Universe ★★ (2007, Musical) Evan Rachel Wood.				(:15) Open Water ★★★ (2003) (CC)		
	581	566	101 MTV	Canada's Next Top Model		Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	MTV Shuffle (CC)		MTV Live	Second Half	Cribs (CC)

SUNDAY 8/10/08

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	(3:00) XXIX Summer Olympics (Live) (CC)				XXIX Summer Olympics (Live) (CC)				
	255	358	6 CH	Stunt Stars "12 Rounds"		Extreme Makeover: Home		Extreme Makeover: Home		The Soup	E News	News (N)
	250	321	9 CTV	Instant Star	Samantha	To Be Announced		Million Dollar Password (CC)		Cold Case (CC)		News (N)
	252	336	11 GTV	renegade	King of Hill	Big Brother 10 (N) (CC)		Family Guy	American Dad	Family Guy	The Simpsons	News (N)
	256	389	12 VI	Funniest Home Videos		To Be Announced		Sarah Connor Chronicles		Mad Men "The Benefactor"		ideaCity
	253	359	13 CITY	(6:30) Emperor's Club ★★ (2002, Drama) Kevin Kline. (CC)				Super Troopers ★★ (2001, Comedy) Jay Chandrasekhar.				Role
	-	-	14 CW	One Tree Hill "Life Is Short"		Hates Chris	Aliens	The Game	Girlfriends	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Without Trace
	289	381	15 CBS	60 Minutes (CC)		Big Brother 10 (N) (CC)		Million Dollar Password (CC)		Cold Case (CC)		News (N)
	287	379	16 NBC	XXIX Summer Olympics (Same-day Tape) (CC)								
	288	380	21 ABC	Funniest Home Videos		Extreme Makeover: Home		Extreme Makeover: Home		Desperate Housewives (CC)		KOMO 4 News
	290	382	23 FOX	'Til Death	'Til Death	The Simpsons	Family Guy	Sarah Connor Chronicles		News (N)	Q It Up Sports	Law/Ord SVU
news	502	390	23 NW	Hiroshima ★★★ (1995) Lynne Adams, Kenneth Welsh.				CBC News: Sunday Night		Hiroshima ★★★ (1995) Lynne Adams.		
	500	500	63 CNN	Newsroom		Special Investigations		Larry King Live		Newsroom		Investigations
sports	407	419	22 RSP	MLB Baseball: Teams TBA		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		The Ultimate Fighter		Sportsnet Connected		Jays
	400	400	30 TSN	(4:30) XXIX Summer Olympics		SportsCentre (Live) (CC)		NASCAR Racing		Motoring 2008	Motoring 2008	SportsCentre
family	552	543	23 YTV	(6:00) The Great Outdoors ★★ (1988)			Prank Patrol	The Next Star (CC)		Falcon Beach (CC)		Falcon Beach
	555	545	50 TEL	Total Drama	Total Drama	Fred's Head	6teen "2-4-1"	Total Drama	Futurama	Chicken	Rick & Steve	Tripping-Rift
	268	354	5 KNO	National Geographic		Rosemary and Thyme (CC)		New Tricks "Casualty" (CC)		Life Begins "Maggie & Paul"		Last Detective
	575	583	20 CMT	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Best Little Whorehouse in Texas ★★ (1982) Burt Reynolds, Dolly Parton.					Home Imp.	Best Little Wh
cable variety	615	520	31 A&E	Two Coreys	Two Coreys	Gene Simmons Family Jewels		Simmons	Simmons	Simmons	Simmons	Two Coreys
	521	560	34 TLC	World's Heaviest Man (CC)		My Shocking Story (CC)		Help! I'm a Hoarder (CC)		World's Heaviest Man (CC)		Dress
	616	522	35 SHO	Wide Awake (2007) Missy Peregrym, Scott Wickware. (CC)				Trailer Park	Rent-A-Goalie	Layer Cake ★★★ (2004) Daniel Craig. (CC)		
	294	650	47 TBS	(:10) The School of Rock ★★★ (2003) Jack Black, Joan Cusack. (CC)					(:40) A Knight's Tale ★★ (2001) (PA) Heath Ledger. (CC)			
	603	561	55 FN	Jamie	Nigella	Road Grill	Grill	Iron Chef America (CC)		Jamie	Grill	Boy Grill
	320	621	60 CEN	(6:00) Becoming Jane ★★		Generation Kill (N) (CC)		(:10) Gone Baby Gone ★★★ (2007) Casey Affleck. (CC)				Gener
	581	566	101 MTV	Canada's Next Top Model		Canada's Next Top Model		Canada's Next Top Model		Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	MTV Shuffle

metro is available at your neighbourhood Blenz.
Read, relax and enjoy!
BLENZ COFFEE

OBITUARY

Car Payment, a constant presence as long as we can remember, finally passed. Car Payment was always there for us, in good times and not so good times.

Car Payment is preceded by boy bands, pay phones and pegged pants.

Car Payment is survived by the hourly car-sharing service named Zipcar.

In lieu of flowers, please visit zipcar.com/webvan

Vancouver Chinatown Festival
Highlights include food, exhibits and an open-air market. At Keefer and Columbia, tomorrow and Sunday, 12-6 p.m.

Going Out

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

1 Duffy

Mercy! Singer Duffy looks poised to become as famous for her face now that she's fronting a Nivea campaign in the U.S., the Daily Mirror reports. The wholesome ad spreads are set to run across 16 magazines later this month.

2 Backstreet Boys tour with Girlicious

Backstreet is back, all right. The '90s boy band has reunited for a North American tour, visiting dates across Canada. The group dazzles fans with its hit songs and signature dance moves. Kicking off the show is opening act Girlicious, a group formed by Pussycat Dolls creator Robin Antin. So whether you were a fan or are just becoming a fan of either group, this show has all of the fun and bubblegum pop that music's been missing.

3 Big Brother

The summer hit is now in its 10th season and it's just beginning to heat up. A group of strangers live together under one roof for 12 weeks for a chance to win $500,000. Sounds easy? Houseguests are faced with physical and mental challenges to earn food, as well as the power to potentially send someone home. Now, viewers have begun voting online for their weekly "America's Player," to have a say as to what goes on in the house.

4 Grey's Anatomy: The Complete Fourth Season

Mark your calendars: Season 4 of the hit medical drama Grey's Anatomy comes out on DVD Sept. 9, but it's available to pre-order now on Amazon.ca.

5 Just Dance, by Lady Gaga

People are going gaga for Lady Gaga's first single from her debut album, Fame, hitting stores next week. You can't help but dance to this The 22-year-old singer/songwriter's catchy tune.

6 When You Are Engulfed in Flames, by David Sedaris

If the title of David Sedaris' collection of essays isn't enough to grab your attention, his pieces on cringe-worth moments coupled with humour just might.

7 The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2: The Movie

Following the success of the book series and the first movie, the sequel looks at how four girls have grown up separately, while still maintaining their friendships. It's a great film to see with girlfriends.

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Super Dave Fact:
Check out the Canadian Windsurfing and Kitesurfing Championships in Squamish this weekend. squamishwindsurfing.org

West Coast Weekend

Gear Guide

Sombrio N-Fluence FRD Short

This tough technical free ride short from Sombrio is my favourite MTB short ever. Lightweight, tough, and four-way stretch woven laminated nylon with weather treated DWR.

Price range: $130

Where to find: *sombriocartel.com*

Shimano Saint Cranks

If you're going to go big you need the best components on the planet. The 2009 Shimano Saint Cranks will take any abuse you throw at them. Super stiff, buttery smooth bottom bracket and they look stealth.

Price range: $400

Where to find: *shimano.com*

Climb steep crags at Crankworx 2008

Mountain Bikers shouldn't miss week-long function

WestCoast**Outdoors**

If you're a mountain biker then you won't want to miss Crankworx when it comes to Whistler Aug. 9-17. This amazing event hosts riders from all over the world who push the limits of what is possible on a bike.

Along with the riders, huge competitions and awesome musical bands comes a huge Sponsor Expo where you can view the latest and greatest gear from every manufacturer in the cycling industry.

Component giant Shimano is one of the huge sponsors that recently released the amazing Freeride Saint Gruppo that any rider would wish to have aboard their mountain bike. You can try it out during the event on one of the many demo bikes available.

Sombrio, a B.C. company, is also a big sponsor of Crankworx this year and its founder Dave Watson, a B.C. native, is one of the legendary Freeride pioneers. Dave is best known for jumping the 2003 Tour de France lead pack on the famous Alp d'Huez Stage. Even though Dave still pushes the envelope on a bike, his creative juices now flow into making some of the best mountain bike clothing in the world.

So if you're looking for some great entertainment, great music and awesome riders from around the world pushing their limits for more than $70,000 dollars in prize money, then get up to Whistler and enjoy the festivities. For more infomation see *crankworx.com*.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Mountain bike Freerider and B.C. native Dave Watson jumps the lead pack in the 2003 Tour de France. Watson's bike clothing company, Sombrio, will be at the Whistler Crankworx festival.

concerts

FRI. 7 P.M. American country music duo performs live. At General Motors Place, 800 Griffiths Way. Tix: $45.50-79.50. Info: *generalmotorsplace.com.*

FRI. 8 P.M. Argentinian pianist, composer Adrian Iaies Trio performs live. At Norman Rothstein Theatre, 950 W. 41st Ave. Tix: $24.25-29.25. Info: *normanrothsteintheatre.com.*

FRI. 8 P.M. Hard-rock combo Michael White and the White performs live. At Commodore Ballroom, 868 Granville St. Tix: $19.50. Info: *livenation.com.*

FRI. 8 P.M. American rock group The Doobie Brothers performs live. At Red Robinson Show Theatre, 2080 United Boulevard. Tix: $74.50 – 89.50. Info: *blvdcasino.com.*

FRI./SAT. 8 P.M. American singer Donna Summer performs live. At River Rock Show Theatre, 8811 River Rd. Tix: $79.50-99.50. Info: *riverrock.com.*

clubs

FRI. 7 P.M. DJ Gareth Emery performs electro, progressive, dance, trance, techno, old school and garage. At the English Bay Cruise, 750 Pacific Blvd. Tix: $50. Info: 604-669-4604.

FRI. 9 P.M. DJs James Murphy and Pat Mahoney spin space disco. At Celebrities Night Club, 1022 Davie St. Tix: $20. Info: *celebritiesnightclub.com.*

SAT. 8:30 P.M. Sat. 8:30 p.m. DJs Jorgito B, Carlitos G, Jose T. perform latin, Top 40 and R&B. At MV Brittania, #1 N. foot of Denman St. Tix: $25. Info: *salsacruises.com.*

FRI. 9 P.M. Sat 9 p.m. DJs Johny Omega, Hollis and Jessi Johnson play house and Top 40. At Canvas Lounge, 99 Powell St. Tix: $16. Info: *canvaslounge.ca.*

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Feast of Fields
On Sunday, September 7, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., enjoy over 60 restaurants, breweries, wineries and artisan food producers at the 2008 Feast of Fields at UBC Farm. This wandering picnic harvest festival is the fundraiser for Farm Folk/City Folk. Tickets are $75. For more info visit farmfolkcityfolk.ca. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Urban Foodie

Elixir's evolution a thing of beauty

ANYA LEVYKH
anya.levykh@metronews.ca

Elixir Restaurant
322 Davie St.
Vancouver
opushotel.com

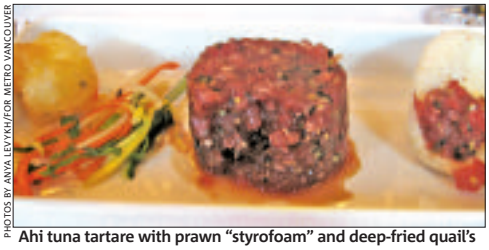
Signature Drink:
Opus 97
Signature Dish:
Honey-Lemon Duck Breast
Rating:
Dinner & drinks for 2:
$100+

My first visit to Elixir was in 2002, shortly after it opened. Classic French bistro fare (with appropriate brothel-red velvet and gilt appurtenances) was the vision, delivered in spades. It's been a few years since I've been back, but the velvet and gilt are still present. The menu, however, has dramatically evolved to include B.C. and points-east flavours, as a couple of recent visits (one media preview and one solo visit with out-of-town guests) proved.

On the web

- Read the full article online at *metronews.ca/Vancouver/comment.*
- Chew more on Anya's blog at *metronews.typepad.com/urbanfoodie.*

Some highlights included a beautiful local beet carpaccio salad ($12), so light in colour that I at first took it for gravlax and so delicately shaved that my fork practically dissolved each slice before I could swallow it. Some B.C. halibut ($30) with a crème fraîche sabayon and essence of smoked salmon simply evaporated before my incisors could get to it. Yellowfin tuna in a sea urchin broth with wasabi butter ($30) over daikon braised in dashi (clear tuna stock) was an incredible sensory experience. A chevre cheesecake ($9) with a brown butter-and-raisin purée made me fork-fight my friends for the last bite. I won.


PHOTOS BY ANYA LEVYKH/FOR METRO VANCOUVER
Ahi tuna tartare with prawn "styrofoam" and deep-fried quail's egg.

Sparkling Sake: Rice Gone Wild

Until recently, sake was never my drink of choice. Then I tried the sparkling variety pictured left at Elixir, and my palate was intrigued. Lighter, sweeter and fruitier than grape-based sparkling wines, sparkling sake makes a good accompaniment to both West Coast and Japanese seafood dishes, not to mention being a great cocktail base. The Artisan Sake Maker on Granville Island makes a seasonal sparkling sake around winter holiday time. In the meanwhile, and until LCLB gets in gear, try joints like Elixir, Blue Water Café and Tojo's for your bubble rice.

Dining out

CHILEAN TREASURES
Morande! A Taste of Chile is the next instalment in Hamilton Street Grill's Yaletown Wine Tasting and Mixer Series. Monday at 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at 1009 Hamilton St. This seated event offers appetizers and three wines for $25 per person. RSVP to 604-331-1511.

PRIX FIXE
From August 14 to 28, Chow Restaurant (3121 Granville St.) will feature heirloom tomatoes in a four-course prix fixe menu for $48. Sample cold tomato soup with compressed watermelon, warm tomato tart with chanterelles, and green zebra tomato jam with honey ice cream. Visit chow-restaurant.com.

In brief

RANTING Steve Dublanica's just published Waiter Rant is a hilarious insider look at both customers-from-hell and the restaurants who serve them.
CHEESE LOVERS Newly-opened Mount Pleasant Cheese (3432 Cambie St.) offers Canadian artisan cheeses from across the country. Open Tuesday to Sunday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
METRO VANCOUVER

Backstage Lounge

Located by the water on world famous Granville Island, The Backstage lounge Showcases live bands 7 nights a week.

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Menu Highlights

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Tandoori Chicken Pizza	$12.95
BURGERS & SANDWICHES	
Canadian Burger Eh!	$12.95

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www.thebackstagelounge.com

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zin-restaurant.com

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1180 Howe St.
604.682.5225
unwined.ca

Rumour denied
A representative for Shia Labeouf has denied reports the actor will have to lose a finger on the hand he injured in a car crash last month. IMDB.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Investigation into Heath's death closed

LEGAL The U.S. Attorney's Office closed its investigation into Heath Ledger's accidental overdose death and will not enforce a subpoena against Mary-Kate Olsen, a law-enforcement source has told People.

The probe was closed without any charges being filed.

Olsen, 22, was subpoenaed by a federal grand jury on April 23, but her attorney had been in negotiations with federal authorities since then, the source says.

Olsen had wanted immunity before testifying. Olsen's attorney released a statement saying the actress "had nothing to do" with Ledger's drugs and had already provided "relevant information" to investigators.

The U.S. Attorney's Office and Olsen's rep both declined to comment.

Ledger, 28, was found dead in his New York apartment on Jan. 22, and the coroner determined the actor died of an accidental overdose of prescription drugs for pain, anxiety and sleep.

The federal probe focused on how he obtained Oxycontin and Vicodin, two powerful and often-abused painkillers for which Ledger had no prescription.

Masseuse Diana Wolozin found Ledger lying on his bed shortly after 3 p.m., and called Olsen three times, records show. The longest call lasted one minute and three seconds.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Sienna's pals speak up

RELATIONSHIPS Friends of Sienna Miller say the actress is no home wrecker — and she never would have gone near her new love, Balthazar Getty, if he was still with his wife, Rosetta, Page-Six.com reports.

"She and Balthazar met through friends and he was already separated from his wife," one close associate told Page Six. In fact, when Getty announced in July that he'd split up with Rosetta, the mother of his four children, "he'd been sleeping on friends' couches for six months."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Britney denies selling pictures

RUMOUR Britney Spears has denied brokering a deal with the paparazzi to take pictures of her on holiday in Mexico, female-first.co.uk reports.

The pop star has been accused of deliberately posing for photographers during a recent break in Cabo San Lucas and taking a cut of the sale price.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Amy wants to offer advice

RADIO Amy Winehouse wants to be an agony aunt on her father's radio show, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The troubled singer is reportedly keen to use her experiences to help others when her dad Mitch co-hosts a BBC London afternoon show on Sept. 1.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Privacy please: Kidman

PEOPLE Nicole Kidman and her husband Keith Urban have urged the media in her native Australia to leave the family alone during their visit to the country, imdb.com reports.

Kidman gave birth to the couple's first child, Sunday Rose, last month in Nashville, Tenn., and they flew back to Kidman's hometown of Sydney on Wednesday to show off the tot to the actress' friends and family.

The couple refused to agree to a magazine deal and sell pictures of the new arrival, and Kidman fears the move may spark chaos during their holiday as photographers clamber to get the first pictures of the baby.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

"This makes no sense at all..."

by Joe O'Neill

Whenever you are faced with a sea of personal troubles, nothing beats focusing intently on the shortcomings and hardships of others to make you feel better. So I really can't blame **Amy Winehouse** for wanting to play the role of agony aunt on her father's radio show.

I would have to think twice before calling in, though. I mean, who in this world has problems that **Amy Winehouse** is going to think are serious? "Your boyfriend broke up with you? Really? Is he in jail for intimidating witnesses? Are you in trouble for obstructing justice? Are you a drug addict with possible emphysema?" If your question didn't involve asking about the best way to freebase cocaine in the back of a taxi, you'd feel bad for having bothered her.

I think the only people who ought to be seeking advice from our Amy are other celebrities.

"Hi **Amy**, it's **Sienna**. I just can't seem to stop wrecking homes. No, I'm not a workaholic contractor. I sleep with other women's husbands!"

"Hi **Amy**, you can call me **M-K**. I used to be on a TV show with my twin sister. A friend of mine is already taking prescription pills for pain, anxiety, and sleep disorders, and he wants to borrow some of mine. What should I do?"

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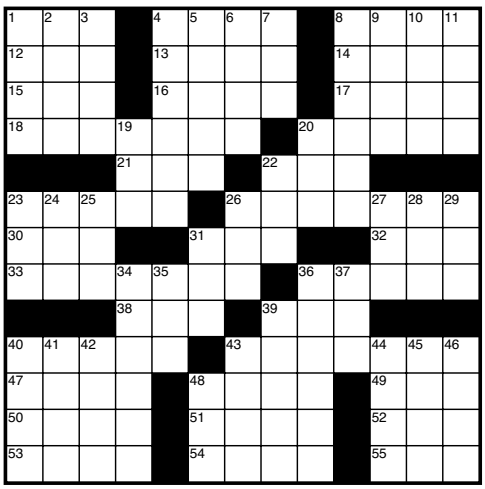
PCTIA

Mendes refuses talk on rehab

Eva Mendes, right, who entered Utah's Cirque Lodge centre in February to tend to "some personal issues," is refusing to elaborate on her stint in rehab, reports femalefirst.co.uk. "I have to think of the pain it might bring my mother," she said. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Take Five



Crossword down

1 Pig movie
2 Draft animals
3 Hull bottom
4 Small tower
5 Adjust the tires
6 Story opener
7 — Paulo, Brazil
8 Tied up the phone
9 Length x width
10 Become limp
11 Ponytail site
19 So!
20 Instant lawn
22 Tankard
23 Implore
24 Virus infection
25 Claiborne of fashion
26 Make an offer
27 Bitter cold
28 Worn-down pencil
29 Right, to Dobbin
31 Pint-size
34 More wacky
35 Caustic substance
36 Stubborn
37 A Little Woman
39 Hot soaks
40 The younger Guthrie
41 Put
42 Latch —
43 Breezy greeting
44 Ceremonial fire
45 Go on a voyage
46 Outback mineral
48 Zig opposite

Play more games online at: metronews.ca

Crossword across

1 — choy
4 Town near Santa Fe
8 Bored response
12 Give the pink slip
13 Arm bone
14 Soprano's piece
15 Flower lover
16 "Little Caesar" role
17 Seaweed
18 Widen
20 Aquarium denizen
21 Poultry buy
22 Stooge with bangs
23 Musical key (2 wds.)
26 Leafing out
30 Cotton gin name
31 Clown's getup
32 Billiard stick
33 Swigged
36 Perhaps
38 Nay opposite
39 Kind of steer?
40 Unescorted
43 Musical style of West Indian origin
47 Hindu royalty
48 Rigatoni kin
49 Kennel sound
50 Lo-cal
51 Pleased sighs
52 Narrow inlet
53 Aroma
54 Golly!
55 Pipe bend

previous day's answer

M	I	L	L	■	C	L	I	P	■	A	D	E
A	L	O	E	■	L	I	M	E	■	L	E	X
N	E	O	N	■	A	L	P	O	■	U	K	E
■	■	■	D	A	M	■	■	N	A	M	E	S
A	B	L	E	R	■	B	A	Y	S	■	■	■
P	O	U	R	■	P	O	P	■	K	O	A	N
E	R	R	■	■	L	O	S	■	■	U	M	A
D	E	E	M	■	E	T	E	■	F	R	O	G
■	■	■	A	N	D	Y	■	C	A	S	K	S
S	H	A	R	E	■	■	M	A	X	■	■	■
C	U	R	■	P	U	C	E	■	I	V	A	N
A	L	E	■	A	T	O	N	■	N	I	L	E
B	A	S	■	L	A	N	D	■	G	A	L	E

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
An asinine person tries to please a busy worker. Inspire a raving lunatic to find serenity. A stern man causes mayhem in a love life.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Traveling leads to the disclosure of a secret. A beast of burden refuses to go on. Get your work done before indulging in fun times.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Strange weather will interfere with a woman's plans. Keys and commands will baffle you. Be suspicious about unfamiliar packaging.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
A thinker will send an invitation. Questionable tactics will strain communications. A scheming man wants you to give in.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
An internet chat friend changes the tune. Anger erupts as irritation breaks loose. A speaker with the gift of gab teaches important lessons.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A touch of madness puts everyone at ease. Someone seeks removal of an air of secrecy. Composure shatters when bad news arrives.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Satisfaction results from a job well done. Your love life adjusts itself in a peculiar way. A stairway is the setting for a mysterious event.

SCORPIO
OCT 24- NOV 22
Accidents and road rage are likely. A troubled teen has a message that brings relief. An authority figure is given special treatment.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23- DEC 21
An old sweetheart is trying to find you. Someone has happy news of increasing income. Love will find an older woman.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
A stupid misunderstanding leads to hurt feelings. A phone call gives reason for optimism. Someone dear to you will get an award..

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Having a thoughtful discussion will ground you. Take care when talking about your love life. An over-eager man makes trouble.

PISCES
FEB 19-MAR 20
Don't start something that you can't finish. Play around with whimsical ideas. You're at the peak of your attractiveness.

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This day in history

AUG. 8, 1876: Thomas Edison receives a patent for his mimeograph.
AUG. 8, 1908: Wilbur Wright makes his first flight at a racecourse at Le Mans, France. It's the Wright Brothers' first public flight and the French public goes wild.
AUG. 8, 1947: Pakistan's National Flag is approved.
AUG. 8, 1949: Bhutan becomes independent.
AUG. 8, 1963: Great Train Robbery: In England, a gang of 15 train robbers steal 2.6 million pounds in bank notes.
AUG. 8, 1991: John McCarthy, British Journalist held hostage in Lebanon for more than five years by Islamic Jihad, is released.

Sudoku

					5	2		
			6	4		1		
1	3	2				5		
2			1		8		4	
	7						2	
	9		5		3			7
		4				8	9	3
		7		9	6			
		9	4					

HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU:
The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

previous day's answer

9	6	7	5	3	4	8	1	2
3	1	2	7	8	9	6	5	4
4	8	5	2	1	6	9	3	7
6	3	1	4	9	8	7	2	5
7	5	4	3	6	2	1	9	8
8	2	9	1	7	5	4	6	3
2	4	6	9	5	7	3	8	1
1	7	8	6	2	3	5	4	9
5	9	3	8	4	1	2	7	6

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME IN MINUTES:

Under 13. . . . . Genius
13-17 . . . . . Scholar
17-21. . . . . Smart
21-25. . . . . Not bad
25+ . . . . . Keep practising

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Vancouver weather

The Weather Network theweathernetwork.com

Afternoon	Tonight	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Partly cloudy. 20°	Cloudy. Low 14°	70% Showers. 17°/13°	70% Rain. 18°/12°	Variable. 20°/13°

Temperature
Normals
High: 22.8°
Low: 13.6°

Records
High: 31.7°/1960
Low: 8.3°/1938

Sunrise: 5:55 a.m.
Sunset: 8:40 p.m.
Moonrise: 2:48 p.m.
Moonset: 11:11 p.m.

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